

“Narrating Frontiers: Transgressions and Exchanges along North American Borders”

**Conference at the John F. Kennedy-Institute for North American Studies, FU Berlin,
Jul 3-6**

Thursday, July 3

17.00 – 18.30:

Lee Mitchell (Princeton) and Juan Bruce Novoa (Irvine) (opening dialogue):

““Whose West Is It Anyway? Or What’s Myth Got to Do With It? The Role of ‘America’ in the Creation of the Myth of the West”

“When West was North, or the Frontier as Liminal Experience: Otero’s Autobiography”

19.30:

Reception (at the Kennedy-Institut)

Friday, July 4

9.30 – 11.00:

Douglas Francis (Calgary): *“Frontiers, Hinterlands and Borderlands: Comparing the Canadian and American Wests”*

Monika Kaup (Washington): *“Life, Liberty, and the Right to Property: History and Representation of 19th-Century Mexican American Encounters with American Concepts of Land as Commodity”*

11.00 – 11.15: Coffee break

11.15 – 12.45

Deborah Madsen (Genf): *“Exceptionalist America and the Discourses of Violence: Larry McMurtry’s West”*

Manuel Broncano (Leon/Spain): *“Hybridization through Violence: The Southwest and the Clash of Civilizations”*

12.45 – 14.30: Lunch break

14.30 – 16.00:

Robert Thacker (St. Lawrence U.): *“The Canadian West as Borderline Narrative”*

Wolfgang Kloos (Trier): *“From Wolf-Willow to The Last Crossing: Writing the 49th Parallel in North American Fiction”*

16.00 - 16.15: Coffee break

16.15 – 18.45:

Brigitte Georgi-Findlay (Dresden): *“Cultural Diversity on the Southwest Urban Frontier”*

Stephen Fender (Sussex/England): *“Lighting Out for the Frontier: Class Warfare, Narrative Evasion and American Modernist Politics”*

19.30 Reception at the Ickstadt home (July 4)

Saturday, July 5

9.30-11.00:

Bob Pickering (Cody, Wy): *“Prehistoric Trade and Travel between the American Southwest and Mexico”*

Carol Higham (Davidson): *“The Function of Christian Missions to the Indians of Canada, the US, and the Mexican-US Borderland”*

11.00 – 11.15 Coffee break

Susanne Rohr (Berlin): *“‘Curved Thought and Textual Wandering’: Digressions on the Frontier in Margaret Fuller’s Summer on the Lakes, in 1843”*.

Marc Chenetier (Paris): *“Wordslingers – Six Shooters: The West in Contemporary Fiction”*

12.45 – 14.30 Lunch break

14.30 – 16.00:

Will Katerberg (Calvin College): *“Frontiers and Homelands: Crossing Borders in the American West from Mexico to Canada”*

Brian Dippie (Victoria): *“The Art of the Two Frontiers”*

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

16.30 – 18.00

Aritha van Herk and Rolando Hinojosa read from their work

Sunday, July 6

10.00 – 12.00

Sabine Sielke (Bonn): *“Frontiers and Borderlands of Critical Discourse”*

Ruth Mayer (Hannover): *“Zones of Contact, Zones of Contagion: Border Discourses and the Imagery of Infection”*

Wrap-up panel discussion

(Carol Higham, Gerhard Hoffmann, Alfred Hornung, Bob Pickering, Thomas Claviez a.o.)