

Saturday, November 1, 2008

9:00 – 10:15 **Keynote Lecture: Alan Wallach** (The College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, USA)
(Room 340)

»The Persistence of the Panoramic: Technologies of Vision in American Culture from the 19th to the 21st Century«

Chair: Timo Tonassi (GSNAS, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)

10:15 – 10:30 **Short Break**

10:30 – 12:30 **Workshop 5 (Room 203)**

»Urban Environments and Toxic Legacies«

Cinzia Scarpino (Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy), »New York City Archipelago of Waste and Memory: Ellis Island, Rikers Island, Hart Island, Staten Island«

Georgiana Banita (University of Konstanz, Germany), »On the Sacredness of Dust: Urban Memorialization and the Toxic Legacy of 9/11«

Sandrine Baudry (Université Paris 7, France), »The Community Gardens of New York City: From Political Statement to Sustainable Development«

Katerina Prajznerova (Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic), »Reclaiming the Riverfront, Covering Up the Riverbottom: The Downtown Development Project in Chattanooga, Tennessee«

Chair: Dorothee Brantz (Center for Metropolitan Studies, TU Berlin, Germany)

Workshop 6 (Room 319)

»Transcultural Poetics«

Astrid M. Fellner (University of Vienna, Austria), »Translating Toronto on a Bicycle: Dionne Brand's *What We All Long For* and the Challenges of Urbanity«

Ralph J. Poole (University of Salzburg, Austria), »Bastardized History: Elif Shafak's *Transcultural Poetics*«

Devin Zuber (University of Osnabrück, Germany), »Out of Paris, into the Favela: Transcultural Poetics of the Urban Plaineur«

Cheryl Lousley (University of Leeds), »Ethics, Nature, and the Stranger: Cosmopolitanism in Dionne Brand's Long Poems *Thirsty* and *Inventory*«

Chair: Elisabeth Damböck (GSNAS, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)

12:30 – 13:15 **Coffee Break and Lunch Snacks**

13:15 – 14:30 **Keynote Lecture: Gundolf Freyeremuth** (International Film School, Cologne, Germany)

»Edges & Nodes // Cities & Nets: The History and Theories of Networks and What They Tell Us About Urbanity in the Digital Age«

Chair: Bernd Herzogenrath (Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt a.M., Germany)

14:30 **Closing Remarks / End of Conference**

TRANSCULTURAL SPACES

Challenges of Urbanity,
Ecology, and the
Environment in the
New Millennium

International Conference
October 30 – November 1, 2008

John-F.-Kennedy-Institute for North American Studies, Free University
Lansstr. 7-9, 14195 Berlin, Germany

The organizers wish to express
their gratitude to the following
organizations for helping to
fund the conference.



JFKI Alumni Association e.V.



Thursday, October 30, 2008

- 18:00** **Welcome and Opening Remarks (Room 340)**
Stefan Brandt (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)
Frank Mehring (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)
- Keynote Lecture: Lawrence Buell** (Harvard University, United States)
»Nature and City: Antithesis or Symbiosis?«
- Chair: Susanne Hamscha** (GSNAS, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)
- 20:00** **Reception at the John F. Kennedy Institute**

Friday, October 31, 2008

- 9:00 – 11:00** **Workshop 1 (Room 203)**
»Literature as Cultural Ecology: A Functional Model and Its Application«
- Michael Sauter** (University of Augsburg, Germany), »Literature as Cultural Ecology: An Analysis of Philip Roth's *The Human Stain*«
- Funda Civelekoglu** (Ege University, Izmir, Turkey), »Archaic Structures as Imaginative Counter-Discourse«
- Alexander Härning** (University of Augsburg, Germany), »Literature as Culture Ecology and Foreign-Language Literary Education at School«
- Georg Drennig** (University of Vienna, Austria), »Reading Mainstreet Cascadia as an (Eco)(u)topia«
- Chair: Timo Müller** (University of Augsburg, Germany)

Workshop 2 (Room 319) »Transculturality and the Media«

- Laura Bieger** (John F. Kennedy Institute, Berlin, Germany), »The Lightning Field, the Grand Canyon Skywalk and the Spatial Promise of Authenticity«
- Claus Schatz-Jakobson** (Syddansk Universitet, Denmark), »Merging with Wildlife, Literally«
- Sarah Butler** (New School of Design, New York, USA), »Naturalizing Culture: Public Art, Design and Architecture at the Turn of This Century«
- Bernd Herzogenrath** (Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt a.M., Germany), »The »Weather of Music: Sounding Nature in the 20th and 21st Century«
- Chair: Jenny Jörgensen** (GSNAS, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee Break**

- 11:30 – 13:00** **Keynote Lecture: Jean Kempf** (Université Lumière-Lyon, France) **(Room 319)**
»The American Small Town and the Reconstruction of Space«
- Chair: Jeanne Cortiel** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany)

13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch Break**

14:30 – 16:30 **Workshop 3 (Room 203)** »Nature, the Environment, and Ethnicity«

- Maria-Sabina Draga Alexandru** (University of Bucharest, Romania), »Urban and Rural Projections of Nomadic Identities in Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's Novels«
- Edda Luckas** (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany), »Mexican American Ecopastoralism in the Wilderness: Alma Luz Villanueva's Ecofeminist Fiction«
- Alexander Starre** (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany), »Roots of American Nature – Negotiating Discourse and Environment in Early American Captivity Narratives«
- Sonja Georgi** (University of Siegen, Germany), »Ethnic Space and the Commodification of Urbanity in Larissa Lai's *Salt Fish Girl*«
- Chair: Akhtar M. Akhtaruzzaman** (GSNAS, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)

Workshop 4 (Room 319) »Recent American Fiction pre and post-9/11«

- Leyla Haferkamp** (University of Cologne, Germany), »Somebody's got to get angry...: Ecoterrorism in the Work of Carl Hiaasen«
- Jeanne Cortiel** (University of Dortmund, Germany), »The Virtual City: Science Fiction and the Topography of Nanospace«
- Antje Dallmann** (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany), »Reconnaissance Expeditions: Re-negotiating Space and Urbanity in the post-9/11 Novel«
- Jan Hollm** (PH Ludwigsburg, Germany), »Envisioning Eco-Dystopian Spaces: Decomposing Civilization in Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*«
- Chair: Susanne Hamscha** (GSNAS, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)

16:30 – 17:00 **Coffee Break**

- 17:00 – 18:30** **Keynote Lecture: Catrin Gersdorf** (Freie Universität Berlin) **(Room 340)**
»Nature in the Grid: American Fiction and the Poetics of Urban Space«
- Chair: Ulrich Meurer** (University of Leipzig, Germany)

Transition to the American Academy

19:30 **American Academy in Berlin** (Am Sandwerder 17-19, 14109 Berlin) **Reception**

- Artists Forum: Rolf Giesen** (University of Beijing, China)
»Metropolis and Beyond«

- Chair: Devin Zuber** (University of Osnabrück, Germany)

- Concert, Reading, and Multimedia: Jens Barnieck** (Piano)