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CALL FOR PAPERS

"LOCAL NATURES, GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITIES"

Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of the New Literatures of English (ASNEL) /
Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für die Neuen Englischsprachigen Literaturen (GNEL)

Friedrich-Schiller-University of Jena, May 17-20, 2007

In many New Literatures in English nature has long been an issue of paramount importance: the environmental devastation brought about by colonial regimes has often continued or even intensified in postcolonial times, and global ecological hazards often have particularly disastrous consequences for the most vulnerable parts of the world's population. At the same time, far-reaching social and cultural transformations have also led to changed perceptions and representations of nature in postcolonial cultures and literatures.

Not long ago postmodern and deconstructionist sages announced the end of nature: they envisioned post-human forms and ways of life "after nature"; or they speculated about the end of history as culminating in postmodernism as the "expurgation of nature", that is the surpassing of nature by art and technology (Fredric Jameson). More recently, nature seems to have returned with a vengeance, however. Disasters such as the devastating tsunami that struck South Asia and East Africa and hurricane Katrina wreaking havoc in the Caribbean and the southern USA have not only led to tens of thousands deaths and destroyed whole areas of coastline. In addition, they have profoundly affected our outlook on nature, making us painfully aware of nature's global forces and simultaneously challenging us to face the responsibilities arising in an increasingly globalized world.

It thus seems timely to place the topic of the environment at the centre of literary and cultural studies. The 2007 ASNEL conference aims at contributing to the global debate on nature and the environment by highlighting how local natures are culturally constructed and how insights into different forms or concepts of nature in literary texts and other ("old" or "new") media can contribute to a greater sense of global responsibility. We therefore invite contributions examining the multifarious implications of the connection of "local natures and global responsibilities" in post-colonial cultures and the New Literatures in English. The following list of issues is meant as a first hint at the comprehensiveness of the conference's overall theme:

- The new role of eco-criticism in the New Literatures in English; in its most abstract form approaching literature as a "living organism" or in its more concrete manifestations establishing "nature" as a new interpretative category
- Various forms of eco-literature in the postcolonial world; ranging from texts that present nature as their main topic and/or protagonist to texts with a "nature agenda" (eco-poetry, eco-films, etc); dystopias and post-human environments
- Nature as a cultural construct
- Gendered natures, gendered responsibilities
- The city vs. the country; urban vs. "natural" environments as culturespecific dichotomies
- Representations of global catastrophes, of human agency and responsibility, and of nature as an "Other"
- Global media, global tourism and local natures

Confirmed Keynote Speakers: Greg Garrard (Bath University/UK), "Reading as an Animal"; Ursula Heise (Stanford University/USA), "The Environmental Imagination of the Global"; Hubert Zapf, "Ecocritical Perspectives on the New Literatures in English".

You are most welcome to make additional suggestions for issues, approaches, genres and thematic sections for the conference.

We invite contributions to a teacher's workshop that will consider classroom implications of the topic.

If you are currently working on a project that focuses on any aspect of the New literature in English, you will have the opportunity of presenting your ideas either as a paper in the "Under Construction"-section or in a poster forum. For details of these please refer to the conference website.

We will provide slots of 20 minutes for papers and 10 minutes for discussions. The deadline for abstracts is 31 January 2007.

Contact address:

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Conference website: http://www.uni-jena.de/fsu/anglistik/gnel



"Under Construction": Research Projects in the New Literatures in English

ASNEL is an association that believes in sharing ideas and promoting discussion at early stages of development, often long before the project is published.

To promote this kind of exchange, two new formats were introduced at the 2006 Conference in Koblenz: a paper section called "Under Construction" and a postersession. Both turned out to be successful and have now become an integral part of the ASNEL annual meetings.

These occasions are not the traditional graduate forums or "Nachwuchs-seminare", but are aimed at every level of academic activity, ranging from young colleagues working on their diploma papers to veteran ASNEL members struggling with their new projects. Both are in need of discussion and feedback, and those presenting as well as those watching and listening profit from the exchange.

Especially for projects in the early stages of development, creating and presenting a poster might help shape and focus a project. Above all, there is an opportunity of receiving a great deal of varied feedback from conference delegates. Those preferring a more traditional presentation can rely on a select attentive audience that is willing to share the experience they have.

If you are interested in participating in the "Under Construction" section or the Poster Session at the forthcoming ASNEL Annual Conference at Jena University, visit the conference website at http://www.uni-jena.de/fsu/anglistik/gnel or mail Dr. Susanne Reichl (susanne.reichl@univie.ac.at) for more information.

"Arrivals and Departures – Stories in Motion" 8th Summer School on the New Literatures in English in Frankfurt, Germany, September 3-7, 2007

STUDENT SUBSCRIPTION TO BEGIN SHORTLY

The Summer School Committee is currently preparing online subscription for student participants of the summer school. Information material for prospective participants will go out to English Departments and other relevant institutions and contact people in January. We naturally hope that ASNEL members and Acolit readers teaching at universities will help us to attract student participants for the summer school. Details on the subscription procedure will be available at www.arrivals-departures.de very soon.

We are happy to announce that the following seminars and workshops have been confirmed and will be up for choice for student participants:

Seminars

Gordon Collier: "Gender and Political Activism in Caribbean-Canadian Demarcations of Identity: Dionne Brand"

Ulrike Erichsen: "Caryl Phillips: Reconstructions of History"

Tabish Khair: "Bollywood, Indian Films and Indian Fiction in English"

Kerstin Knopf: "Decolonizing the Lens of Power: Indigenous Films in Canada"

Markus Müller: "Trance Canada Awakening? Histories & Recoveries across the Nation's Cultures"

Arun Mukherjee: "The Speaking Subaltern: An Introduction to Dalit literature" **Mala Pandurang**: "Passage (Back) to India"

Susanne Reichl, Mark Stein & Frank Schulze-Engler: "Postcolonial Laughter: Forms and Functions of Humour in the New Literatures in English"

Monika Reif-Hülser: "Re-Working the Past – Forging New Identities: Post-Apartheid Novels and the Idea of a South African Literary Canon"

Amritiit Singh: "African American Migration Literature"

Birk Sproxton: "A Corridor Culture: The Automobile and Stories of Motion" **Silke Stroh**: "Too Close to Home? 'Celtic Fringes' as Cultural Contact Zones in

Travel Writing from the British Isles'"

Gilbert Yeoh: "J. M. Coetzee: Novel Departures"

Uwe Zagratzki: "20th Century Scottish, Irish and Welsh fiction"

Creative Writing Workshops

David Arnason: "Beginnings and Endings: How to Arrive and Depart in Fiction and Poetry"

Cathie Dunsford & Karin Meissenburg: "Borderlands, Heartlands and Creative Journeys – Writing Workshop for Students in all Genres"

Helon Habila: "Entrance"

HELP WITH FUNDING STILL NEEDED

Right now our team is in the process of raising money for the summer school. We very much welcome suggestions and contributions from anyone who might be interested in supporting our project or can help us to make contacts that might be valuable. Feel free to contact us via e-mail <checkin@arrivals-departures.de> to discuss options of becoming involved or to find out more about what kind of support might be needed.

For further information on our project, the Summer School Committee, our programme and for a list of our academic and literary guests check our homepage at

www.arrivals-departures.de

International *Transcultura* Symposium: "Playing by the Rules of the Game"

10 to 14 July 2006, Merzig, Germany

While the whole of Germany was still celebrating the outcome of the "finals of the hearts", and, above all, enjoying the satisfaction of having successfully organized the Football World Championship, a number of indefatigable scholars were hard at work in a charming town in one of Germany's smallest federal states. The University of Saarland, coordinator of *Transcultura* Studies (Europe) invited academics from four continents to a conference organized under the motto: "Playing by the Rules of the Game". From 10 to 14 July 2006, scholars from a variety of academic fields, such as Anglophone studies, anthropology, Romance studies, law, linguistics, media studies, and philosophy, discussed whether 'playing by the rules' is a universal cultural concept, and whether the principle of 'rules' and their validity is homogeneously understood and implemented.

The conference opening took place at Museum Schloss Fellenberg in Merzig, where Martina Ghosh-Schellhorn, professor for Transcultural Anglophone Studies at the University of Saarland, welcomed the attendants and guests. The modern town hall of the city of Merzig, located in an inviting and lively centre, served as the venue of the conference and provided not only excellent space for engaged discussions, but also an ideal surrounding for a refreshing stroll through the streets between the paper presentations.

One of the main points of interest at the conference was the ideological and linguistic involvement of different kinds of sport with their cultural context. *Transcultura* representative Maximilian Herberger amplified the consideration of the rules of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews as rules of law, while Roland Marti, professor for Slavonic studies, rejected the general notion that rugby is 'a sport where anything goes'. Proceeding from a fascinating account of the founding myths of rugby, the presentation emphasized that in rugby, rules are not simply rules. Rules are laws; and the rugby myth and its concept of playing are understood as a kind of philosophy. This somewhat serious approach to the game does not, as one might expect, result in a rigid and never changing order. In fact, rugby laws, which have experienced a number of changes during the past two centuries, reflect both the transformations in the world outside rugby and the developments within the game itself.

The interdependence of self-conception and game rules was further examined by Cornelia Gerhardt from the chair of linguistics; her paper highlighted the verbal practices British football fans employ when they are watching a game on TV and attempt to construct themselves as experts. While presenting transcriptions of recorded conversations of football fans, Cornelia Gerhardt demonstrated how their talk interlaced with the remarks of both the commentator and the pundit who explain the match on TV, and how their discourse provides a platform on which the fans can display their knowledge and can construct themselves as part of the foot-

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ball community. Paul Morris from the chair for American studies, who, like Roland Marti, added the spice of personal experience to his discussion, pursued the question whether and how Canadian Society and Canada's national sport, Ice Hockey, have mutually influenced each other. His focus lay on Canadian identity and how it evolved in accordance with hockey from 'the mythic purity of their small-town, pre-capitalist origins' to the urban, global phenomena they represent today. Hockey, like the country and its national identity, has passed through a series of parallel transformations. And although both country and sport have changed frequently, hockey continues to express fundamental features within the national identity.

Since one of the goals of the European project of *Transcultura* is to collocate scholarly materials for pedagogic use, it seemed only consequent to present transcultural ideas to school classes in the course of the symposium. On Wednesday morning, Saarland's state secretary Susanne Reichrath introduced the German education system and entered a transcultural dialogue with grammar school pupils. Her talk was followed by a paper of Martina Ghosh-Schellhorn, who used the movie *Bend It Like Beckham* to emphasize the problems of young migrants in Europe. More than one hundred pupils from Germany, France, Luxemburg and China attended the workshop and discussed the difficulties of assimilation and (trans)cultural identities with the *Transcultura* people.

The social highlight of the symposium was the boat trip on Wednesday afternoon, which took the participants on the river Saar to the famous Saarschleife, one of the Saarland's most beautiful natural settings. The boat trip not only provided the Chinese philosopher Zhao Tingyang with the chance to demonstrate his remarkable talent for the art of paper folding: he also turned out to be a gifted cartoonist. His works of art were later put on the walls of the town hall where they embellished the venue and served as a humorous background for all the discussions.

The concluding presentations linked up with the question of fairness and ethical principles examined earlier on, by participants like Klaus Vieweg, Balveer Arora, and Carsten Momsen, who illuminated the fairness principle in sports and politics. The penultimate speaker Klaus Steinbach, who is the former president of the German Olympic Committee and a former world swimming champion himself, and the final speaker Peter Müller, Minister President of the federal state Saarland, both complemented our discussion with examples and insights from their own professional experience. Their papers opened up broader perspectives not only on fairness, but on the predicament and the moral dilemma one can get in when trying to balance the ethical values of society with the practical demands of everyday life.

The *Transcultura* conference succeeded in raising many more questions than it could answer, a result which was, I dare say, its intention from the start. The interested and thought-provoking inquiries of the response panels, the lively discussions during the breaks, the familial atmosphere and, not to forget, the seemingly effortless concern of the conference team who had organized simultaneous translations in the conference's three languages German, English and French, all contributed to a memorably warm and intellectually stimulating experience.

Katrin Berndt (Saarbrücken)

LEHRVERANSTALTUNGEN IM WINTERSEMESTER 2006/07

[zusammengestellt aus AREAS - Annual Report on English and American Studies, Band 31 (2006) sowie aus Zusendungen von Mitgliedern der GNEL]

Deutschland

AACHEN

Davis Black and South Asian British Theatre

--- Recent Canadian Drama

--- Cultural Studies: Aspects of Postcolonial Studies

--- Australia

--- Filming New Zealand

Davis/Jansen Southern African Women's Writing Griffig Geographical Varieties of English

AUGSBURG

Böhm Landeskunde USA & Kanada

BAMBERG

Müller Postcolonial Literature: An Introduction

BAYREUTH

Dannenberg Cultural Identity in Anglophone Asian Fiction and Media in

Britain and Canada

Feldbrügge After Apartheid: Literature and Culture in Contemporary South

Africa

Harprecht A Stranger in a Stranger Land: Multi-Ethnic Literature in Great

Britain

BERLIN, FU

Leitner Sociolinguistics and Varieties of English

Leitner/Noor Sociolinguistics in South-East Asia: Social, Ethnic and Gender

Variation

Schwarz Colonial and Postcolonial Literatures II: 'Common Skies,

Divided Horizons'. Writing Postcolonial Spaces

BERLIN, HU

Luig White Teeth, Dark Skin?

Matzke So, what's new? Anglophone afrikanische Literatur im 21. Jahr-

hundert

Peter. English in Africa N.N. Postcolonial Britain

BIELEFELD

Gramley National Varieties of English
Language and Ethnicity
Schneider Ethnicity and Film in Britain

Восним

Rickert Postcolonial Indian Literature

Viol The World is not Enough: James Bond, Empire and British

Culture

BONN

Bruns (Post-)Koloniale Perspektiven auf Rassismus: Transferanalysen

zwischen Nordamerika und Europa ab 1800

Schmidt- Postcolonial Literatures in English

Haberkamp

Schmidt- Postcolonial Theory

Haberkamp

Schmidt- Haber- Contemporary Canadian Drama (in Kooperation mit dem

kamp/Sielke Theater Bonn)

Stähler Canadian Short Stories

N.N. Kanadistik: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

BRAUNSCHWEIG

Gnutzmann The Globalisation of English: Sociolinguistic, Intercultural and

Educational Perspectives

BREMEN

Sandten Fictions of Empire: Conrad, Kipling, Forster Schaffeld Margaret Atwood's Historical Crime Fiction

Starck National and Cultural Identity in Contemporary Scottish Drama Watson/ Broeck Introduction to Studies in English-Language Literatures and

Cultures

CHEMNITZ

Heller Integrated Area Studies Australia McCulloch Integrated Area Studies Canada

DORTMUND

Bell Project and Evaluation: Australia/New Zealand/USA
Grünkemeier English-Speaking Cultures of the World, Group B
Kane English-Speaking Cultures of the World, Group C
Kramer English-Speaking Cultures of the World, Group A

--- Teaching Literature and Culture in English

Schlensag English-Speaking Cultures of the World, Group D English-Speaking Cultures of the World, Group E

DRESDEN

Horlacher Talking About Decline II: Post/Colonial Novels from *Heart of*

Darkness to...

DÜSSELDORF

Gomille Contemporary Canadian Fiction

DUISBURG-ESSEN

Davis South African Women Writers Drawe Films in New South Africa

Gassenmeier The Formation of Great Britain and the Rise of the British

Empire

Grün Making Old Stories New: Keri Hulme's *The Bone People*

Hickey English in Africa Reckwitz South African Poetry

EICHSTÄTT

Kalt Ethnic Writing in the UK

ERFURT

Wilton Sprachwissenschaft: Varietäten des Englischen (2x)

ERLANGEN

Bayer Literature from India

Habermann Reading New Literatures in English

Krug The Arabian Nights – Entertainment and British Culture

FRANKFURT/M

Arndt New Literatures in English

Barron Variational Pragmatics: Language Use Across the Englishes

Bieswanger Varieties of English Brancato Black British Literature

Doff/ Schulze- New English Cultures and Literatures in EFL Materials: An

Engler Interdisciplinary Approach Helff Introduction to Travel Writing

--- New Zealand and Australian Cinema

Schulze-Engler A Life of One's Own: The Novels of Anita Desai Introduction to the New Literatures in English

--- Transcultural Canada: Migrant and First Nations Writing

FREIBURG

Hochbruck American and Canadian Short Stories of the 20th Century Korte/Mair The New Englishes and the New English Literatures Mair Corpus Approaches to the Study of the New Englishes

Olson Three by Coetzee

Petzhold Literary Representations of India: Kipling, Forster, Rushdie

Woods-Czisch New Zealand: Fact and Fiction

Zimmermann Jackie Kay

GIEßEN

Collier Crossing the Mangrove: Comparative Perspectives on English,

French and Spanish Prose Fiction in the Greater Caribbean

Freitag Black and Asian British Literature and Film

--- Images of Young British Muslims and Intercultural Learning

from the Black Album to Yasmin

Horstmann Schreiben in Südafrika: Kurzgeschichten von Herman Charles

Bosman

GÖTTINGEN

Glaser Transnational Writing
Küsgen Postcolonial Literature

GREIFSWALD

Enter Canadian Métis Cultures in the English Classroom of the

German Gymnasium?

Gudsteinsdottir Icelandic Canadian Classics

Knopf "Weird Sex and Showshoes": Contemporary Films in Canada Writing Back: Literature of African, Asian, Latin, and Native

American Authors

Lutz Native Literatures in Canada and the US

--- Classics of Canadian Literature Rafico Ruiz Aspects of Canadian Culture

HALLE-WITTENBERG

Busse English Rules the World? The Globalisation of English

Bergmann Das britische Regierungssystem in vergleichender Perspektive

(USA, Indien, Kanada, Neuseeland)

HANNOVER

Gohrisch Postmodernist Fiction from South Africa

Sand English in Africa

N.N. Postcolonial Literatures

HEIDELBERG

Fischer-Hornung Australasia: Contextualizing Australia

Glauser Pidgins and Creole Languages

Hundt English in Asia

Lutz Contemporary Canadian Literature and Transculturalism

Nünning Fictions of Migration Schnierer Colonial Literature

KARLSRUHE

Hermes Exploring Down Under: History and Literature

KASSEL

Heiler Postcolonial Rewritings

KIEL

Claridge English-based Pidgins and Creoles Groß German-Canadian Dialogues

Haas Glocal Literature? Kley Caribbean Drama Kunze Varieties of English

Meyer Problems of Usage in Canadian and American English
--- Canadian English: Phonological, Lexicographical and

Grammatical Issues

KOBLENZ-LANDAU

King Varieties of Modern English Plummer Postcolonial Crime Fiction

KÖLN

Antor Canadian Women Writers

--- The Contemporary Australian Novel in English

Bölling Twentieth-Century Canadian Prose Fiction – Part II: 1950-2000

KONSTANZ

Frank Images of India: Colonial Texts, Postcolonial Intertexts

Mergenthal/Butt Bollywood-Filme

Reif-Hülser Another Anthropology: Visual and Textual Representations of

Animals in Postcolonial Writing

--- Creating a Literary Canon: South African Family Histories from

Post Apartheid Perspective

LEIPZIG

Lembert The Canadian Hamlet: Contemporary Canadian Versions of

Shakespeare's Hamlet

Lindner The Contemporary Indian Novel

Pollner The Politics and Linguistics of English in India

Ludwigsburg

Strauch Linguistisches Hauptseminar: Social and Regional Variation in

National and International English

LÜNEBURG

Smyth Ethnic Minorities in Great Britain

MAGDEBURG

Ebeling English in Non-Native Contexts

Lange Transcultural Writing: Zadie Smith, Monica Ali

Wandel Interkulturelles Lernen

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Wiemann Eurocentrism

--- Postcolonial Rewritings of Classical Texts

MAINZ

Lampert The World in English: An Introduction to Anglophone

Languages

Matter-Seibel Settling the Prairies: History and Myth-Making in the United

States and Canada

N.N. Vorlesung zur Anglophonie

N.N. Vorlesung zur anglophonen Sprach-/Übers.wiss.

N.N.Culture Studies III (Neusseeland)N.N.Culture Studies III (Canada)

MANNHEIM

Wiemer Zwischen Third-World-Literature und Globaler Literatur:

Neuere Konzepte von Weltliteratur

MARBURG

Kuester The New Literatures in English Radu Building the Canadian Nation

MÜNCHEN

Boecker Caryl Phillips

Clemm The Commonwealth – a Political, Historical and Cultural Survey

Weik-Price Multicultural Britain Wunsch Salman Rushdie

Zwingenberger Introduction to Canadian Studies: Regionalism in Canada

N.N. Caribbean Literature
N.N. Literature and Colonialism

MÜNSTER

Mayer Contemporary U.S. and Canadian Native Fiction: Leslie

Marmon Silko, Linda Hogan, Thomas King

--- The Cultural History of Nature: The United States and Canada

Meierkord The Verb Phrase in New Englishes
Stein Literature of the South Asian Diaspora

--- Rushdie and Rushdie-ities: Cultural Capital and Anxieties of

Influences

--- Postgraduate Seminar: Transnationale Literaturen

--- Postcolonial Studies (Betreuungsseminar)

Stierstorfer Empire Writing

Stroh Rewriting Chaucer: Transcultural Readings from Medieval

England to 20th-Century Nigeria

--- Reading and Analytical Writing (Thematic focus: New

Literatures in English)

Wilson Reading Other Cultures and Looking at Our Own: Hanif

Kureishi's The Buddha of Suburbia in the German Oberstufe

OLDENBURG

Duncan Short Stories from Africa

Kirchhofer Fictions of Africa

Schwarzkopf From Empire to Decolonization: The Case of Africa

Zagratzki Ethnic Minorities in Canada

--- Native American and Native Canadian Literature

OSNABRÜCK

Asu English-Speaking Africa

Husemann Today's India

Karrer Slavery and Slave Narratives

PADERBORN

Lillge 'New Passages to India': Postcolonial Identity and Diaspora

Experience

McIntosh- The Commonwealth of Nations

Schneider

Tönnies English-Language Short Stories

PASSAU

Hansen Black Literature

POTSDAM

Burmeister Englishes: Synchronic, Diachronic, and Psycholinguistic

Perspectives

Kinsky-Ehritt Postcolonial Studies and Intercultural Learning: Didaktische

Perspektiven in der gymnasialen Oberstufe

Petschan Religious Diversity in Multicultural Britain: Source of Cultural

Conflict or Cultural Challenge?

Thim Varieties of English

REGENSBURG

Gehring National and International History as Reflected in Canadian

Fiction and Poetry

Hoffmann Accents of English around the World

Spergel Introduction to English-Canadian Fiction in Print and Film

ROSTOCK

Linke Representations of Diasporic Identities in Film and Film Music:

the Example of India

SAARBRÜCKEN (UNIVERSITÄT DES SAARLANDES)

Alexander Canadian Poetry

Berndt Intertextual (Re-)Writing: Peter Carey's *Jack Maggs*

Martens A History of Canadian Literature in English

--- The Caribbean in the USA and Vice Versa: Critical Readings in

Selected Texts from Phillip Freneau to Derek Walcott

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v. Lutz Nostalgia of the Empire in Britain

Warken Canadian Science Fiction

Zehle German Colonialism – History & Memory

--- Nigerian Novels

SCHWÄBISCH GMÜND

Zirkel British Immigrant Literature

--- The Frontier in Canada and the USA

SIEGEN

Banerjee Beyond Bollywood

Brandt A "Multicolored Atlantic": Transcultural Encounters and the

Construction of the Modern American Self

Kunter Varieties of English

Pankratz Novels by Salman Rushdie

STUTTGART

Amor Colonial and Postcolonial Literature
Holtkamp Australasia: Contextualizing Australia

Michel Landeskunde South Africa

Stoll Critical Analysis: Caribbean Literature

TRIER

Müller Thomas King and Native North American Literature Klooß Postwar Canada: Cultural and Literary Encounters

Platz Australian Poetry

N.N. Kanadische Landeskunde

TÜBINGEN

N.N. 20th Century Australian Fiction and the New Literatures

N.N. Australian Aboriginal Writing and Culture

VECHTA

Panitz Dealing with Varieties of English in the ESL-Classroom

Würzburg

Ikas "Australia – Europe's and America's Gateway to Asia?" An

Introduction to Australian Literature, Culture and Society for the

EFL-Classroom

--- "The Loss of Innocence": An Introduction to Jewish Immigrant

Writing in English for the EFL-Classroom

Kohl Britannia's Empire (Cultural Studies) Meyer Focus on Canada and Australia (Didaktik)

Österreich

GRAZ

Löschnigg International English Literatures

--- The Canadian Short Story

Kettemann Seminar in Anglophone Cultures: The Language of Risk Seminar in Anglophone Cultures: Children's Responses to the

Screen

N.N.Varieties of Spoken EnglishN.N.Varieties of Written English

INNSBRUCK

Ganner British and Transcultural Literature since the 1970s

Zach Colonialism and Slavery in English Drama

--- (Post)Colonial English Fiction of the 19th and 20th Centuries

KLAGENFURT

Devine Special Topics in Culture Studies: Colonial Settlements

James Advanced Topics in English Linguistics: Pidgins and Creoles

Wildburger Main Developments in Culture Studies I: Difference and

Diversity. Representations of Indigenous Australian Peoples/s

and Cultures

--- Special Topics in Literature Studies: Text, Country, and

People/s. Stories from Aboriginal Australia

--- Survey of Anglophone Literatures

Wimmer Main Developments in British Studies: The British Empire and

Australia

SALZBURG

Flothow Aspects of Anglophone Civilization: Black British Literature

Grosser English – From Dialect to Global Language Steiner New Voices from South Africa and the U.S.

WIEN

Birkle Literature Course Interactive: 20th Century Canadian Women

Writers

--- Mapping North America: US American and Canadian Travel

Writing

Knellwolf Advanced Cultural Studies: American Indian and Australian

Aboriginal Fiction

--- Australian Studies

Langenberger Performance and Performatives: Linguistic Reflections in

Gender-cultural and Postcolonial Studies

Seidlhofer Linguistics Seminar: Language Variation and Change: The Case

of 'Global English'

Abgeschlossene Promotionen

AUGSBURG

Michael Friedrichs Tecumseh Canadensis Lit. Eine stoffgeschichtliche Unter-

suchung

Claudia Walther Die Stadt als Thema: Bombay zwischen Realität und Ima-

gination in den Romanen von Salman Rushdie, Rohinton

Mistry und John Irving

BERLIN, HU

Frank Polzenhagen Cultural Conceptualisations in West African English: A

Cognitive-Linguistic Approach

CHEMNITZ

Samuel Ngwa Atechi The Intelligibility of Native and Non-native English

Speech. A Comparative Analysis of Cameroonian English

and American English and British English

Balbina Mesue Ebong The Use of Indigenous Techniques of Communication in

Language Learning: The Case of Cameroon

FRANKFURT

Sissy Helff Unreliable Truths: Indian Homeworlds in Transcultural

Women's Writing

Silke Stroh A (Post-)Colonial Tale? Literary Negotiations of Scottish

and Gaelic Identity

FREIBURG

Munang Isaiah Ayafor Official Bilingualism in Cameroon - And Empirical

Evaluation of the Status of English in Official Domains

Kerstin Fest And All Women Mere Players? Performances of Feminine

Identity in the Novels of Dorothy Richardson, Radclyffe

Hall and Jean Rhys

Lars Hindrichs Jamaican Creole on the Internet: Forms and Functions of an

Oral Language in Computer-mediated Communication

Miriam Nandi (M)Other India(s) – Zur literarischen Verbreitung von

Armuts- und Kastenproblematik in ausgewählten Texten

der indischen Literatur seit 1935

Yves Talla Sando

Ouafeu

Intonational Meaning in Cameroon English Discourse

GRAZ

Martina Maier Between Chapati and Toast: Social, Religious and Political

Aspects in Raja Rao's and Mulk Anand's Fiction

Stefanie Ofner The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith: Thomas Keneallys Roman

und Fred Schepisis Film – ein Vergleich

GREIFSWALD

Jo-Ann Episkenew Contemporary Literature in English of the Indigenous

Peoples of Canada

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Andrea Nickolaizig, "Kultur und Identität im zeitgenössischen Roman Neuseelands: Konstruktionen von Maoritanga in ausgewählten Werken von Witi Ihimaera, Keri Hulme und Alan Duff", Magisterarbeit, Frankfurt/M, 2006 (Prof. Frank Schulze-Engler)

Nach dem Ende der Kolonialzeit fanden sich die Maoris, die Ureinwohner Neuseelands, als ethnische Minderheit im eigenen Land wieder. Große Teile ihres Landes waren in den Besitz der Pakeha, der weißen Einwanderer übergegangen und die indigene Kultur hatte starke Veränderungen durch den Einfluss der Siedlerkultur hinnehmen müssen. Viele Bräuche und Traditionen waren in Vergessenheit geraten und nur noch wenige Maoris beherrschten die eigene Sprache. Als dieser bedrohliche Zustand in das Bewusstsein der indigenen Bevölkerung rückte, entstand in den 1970er Jahren die Renaissance-Bewegung Maoritanga mit dem Ziel, dem fortschreitenden Untergang der Maori-Kultur Einhalt zu gebieten. Dazu gehörte neben der Rekonstruktion der indigenen Kultur auch die Entwicklung einer neuen Maori-Identität. Die gleichzeitige Entstehung einer neuen englischsprachigen Maori-Literatur leistete dazu einen entscheidenden Beitrag. Maori-Autoren verarbeiteten ihre Vorstellungen von Maori-Kultur und -Identität in ihren Romanen und erreichten damit sowohl ein erweitertes Verständnis für die Maori-Kultur auf Seiten der Pakeha als auch eine neue Identifikation der Maoris mit ihrer Kultur. Diese Arbeit untersucht die unterschiedlichen Konstruktionen von Maoritanga in ausgewählten Romanen von Witi Ihimaera, Keri Hulme und Alan Duff und erläutert, welche unterschiedlichen Kultur- und Identitätsvorstellungen die Autoren damit verbinden.

Witi Ihimaera: *The Whale* Rider – Witi Ihimaeras Ansatz zur Aufrechterhaltung der Maori-Kultur und -Identität ist die Rückbesinnung auf traditionelle Werte. *The Whale Rider* vermittelt dem Leser zentrale Aspekte von *Maoritanga* und erläutert die Bedeutung verschiedener Traditionen und Bräuche sowie der Mythologie. Der Autor geht nur am Rande auf aktuelle Probleme der Ethnie ein und schlägt nur geringfügige Veränderungen der Traditionen und Bräuche vor. *The Whale Rider* gibt einen umfassenden Einblick in die Kultur der Maoris, bietet aber durch seinen unkritischen Umgang mit Traditionen und Bräuchen einen kaum realisierbaren Lösungsansatz für die problematische Situation der Maoris im zeitgenössischen Neuseeland.

Keri Hulme: *The Bone People* – Keri Hulme stellt in *The Bone People* sowohl die fortschreitende Hybridisierung der neuseeländischen Gesellschaft als auch die Bedeutung von *Maoritanga* für die Maoris dar. Ihre Figuren sind bereits zu Beginn des Romans vom Einfluss beider Kulturen geprägt und tragen sowohl Pakeha- als auch Maori-Eigenschaften in sich. Die Autorin zeigt in ihrem Roman, dass beide Kulturen zu Neuseeland gehören und propagiert ein gleichberechtigtes, respekt-volles Zusammenleben

Alan Duff: Once were Warriors – Alan Duff thematisiert in seinem Roman die zunehmende kulturelle Entfremdung der Maoris in urbaner Umgebung und weist mit seiner realistischen Darstellung eines vorstädtischen Maori-Ghettos als erster indigener Autor auf die problematische Situation der Maoris im zeitgenössischen Neuseeland hin. Duff macht die Maoris selbst für ihre Perspektivlosigkeit verantwortlich und sieht gänzlich von Schuldzuweisungen an die Pakeha ab. Stattdessen konzentriert er sich auf die selbstkritische Untersuchung der archaischen Traditionen seiner Ethnie und zeigt wie Eigeninitiative, Engagement und eine gewisse Anpassungsfähigkeit neue Möglichkeiten eröffnet, in der Pakeha-Welt auch zukünftig bestehen zu können.

Durch ihre Literatur haben es Ihimaera, Hulme und Duff geschafft, den Maoris eine Stimme zu geben und eine gewisse Aufmerksamkeit auf die Ethnie der Maoris zu lenken. Allen drei Werken ist die Ansicht gemein, dass Maori-Kultur Veränderungen erfahren muss, um in der Zukunft weiterhin Bestand zu haben.

Claudia Perner, "Textual Freedoms – Political Risks: Cross-racial Narration in the Contemporary Novel", Magisterarbeit, Frankfurt am Main 2006 (Prof. Frank Schulze-Engler)

Despite the fact that the "death of the author" was declared decades ago and the pursuit of cultural authenticity has been condemned by large numbers of literary schoolars, labels that classify works of literature according to the cultural or racial background of their creators enjoy ongoing popularity. This research paper deals with literary works that actively resist such categorizations: Four contemporary novels are explored in respect to the "cross-racial" quality of their narration, the "racial gap" between the authors and the narrative instances they create.

The introductory theory chapter outlines the problematic quality of the notion of "race", a concept that has long been proven to be a biological fiction yet nevertheless survives as a force shaping social realities. Furthermore the question of "who is allowed to speak for whom" is introduced as a crucial issue that recurs in academic and more generally public responses to cross-racial and cross-cultural works of literature.

The analysis of the four novels chosen for this thesis, V. S. Naipaul's *Guerrillas* (1975), Nadine Gordimer's *My Son's Story* (1990), Caryl Phillips' *The Nature of Blood* (1997) and Richard Powers' *The Time of Our Singing* (2003), situates each novel in its specific historical, political and social context and shows how questions of racial identity and membership are negotiated within the novels. Each novel is also examined in regard to the critical – in certain cases almost violent – responses it has provoked, many of which relate to issues that are central to this thesis.

The analysis of the four novels suggests that acts of narrative race-crossing can function as self-reflexive and self-conscious attempts of exploring "in between" states (Gordimer, Powers), of creating connections between different experiences of

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oppression and suffering (Phillips) or of closely – but also detachedly – observing human beings struggling in a complex modern world (Naipaul). All four authors have resisted the simplistic task of speaking *for* or *on behalf of* another person or group of people but instead employ cross-racial narration as an intimate mode of speaking *about* their protagonists without, however, failing to acknowledge their own outsider status.

This thesis is an attempt to show in how far the novels under consideration are influenced by and may also benefit from the tensions that exist between the characters and contexts they depict and the racial backgrounds of their authors. Narrative fragmentation and ambivalence of perspective are major features of the narrative technique in all four novels and create 'narrative halls of mirrors' in which the authors of the respective novels emerge as presences that do not produce or inscribe meaning but nevertheless may enrich our reading and understanding of the literary texts.

The author of this thesis concludes that voluntary acts of literary "transgression" like the cross-racial novels under consideration venture out to explore the world beyond the 'color-line' (W.E.B. DuBois) and thereby create connections and overlaps that potentially destabilize the imaginary demarcation lines that divide the "races". In their awareness of distinctions of race and their conscious choice to scrutinize these distinctions, cross-racial novels can propose a more flexible concept of racial and literary ownership and work towards a more fluid interchange of narrative traditions. Thus they advocate the step 'across the line' as a conscious part of the literary 'product' and as a source of insight and artistic fertility.