

Speakers

Speakers at the international symposium Border poetics? - A Comparative Perspective, Tromsø and Sommarøy, November 11-13, 2004.

Jane Aaron is Professor of English at the University of Glamorgan where she teaches Welsh writing in English. She has written widely on women's writing in Wales, images of Welsh women, feminism and literary theory, Welsh literature in Welsh and in English and on Charles and Mary Lamb. Her latest book is *Pur fel y Dur: Y Gymraes yn Llên Menywod y Bedwaredd Ganrif ar Bymtheg* (Pure as Steel: The Welsh Woman in Nineteenth-Century Women's Writing, 1998), which won the Ellis Griffith memorial prize. Editor of Honno Classics series of reprints of Welsh women's writing in English, she has prepared for that series the anthology *A View across the Valley: Short Stories by Women from Wales c.1850-1950* (1999) and other volumes. The co-edited anthology *Postcolonial Wales* and the book *Romanticism and Welsh Women Writers 1780-1840* are forthcoming.

Debra A Castillo is Professor of Romance Studies and of Comparative Literature at Cornell University. She is and has been editor of various periodicals, including *Latin American Literary Review* and *Diacritics*. Her books include *Talking Back: Toward a Latin American Feminist Literary Criticism* (1992), *Easy Women: Sex and Gender in Modern Mexican Fiction* (1998), *Border Women: Writing from La Frontera* (edited with María Socorro Tabuenca Córdoba 2002), and *Re-dreaming America: Toward a Bilingual Understanding of American Literature* (2004). She is advisor/teacher for the Teatrollar theatre ensemble, which has performed in the USA, Mexico, Belgium and Canada, with some plays directed by her. In 1997 she was named a Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow of Cornell University.

Claudio Egerer is Senior Lecturer at the English Department of Stockholm University. She has previously held similar positions in Trondheim and Gothenberg and an honorary fellowship at the Institute for Research in the Humanities, Madison. Her dissertation has been published as *Fictions of (In)Betweenness* (1997). She is interested in the issue of border-crossings - questions of otherness, marginality, silence, language - from poststructuralist and postcolonial perspectives. Research in progress comprises a book tracing conceptualizations of the exotic in literature from the Renaissance to the era of globalization and postcoloniality, and a collection of papers investigating stereotypes of the American tourist abroad. She is also involved in the Trans-Position Project.

Reinhold Görling is Professor of Media and Cultural Studies at the Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf. He has taught Comparative and German Literature at Hannover, Innsbruck and the University of California, Irvine. He is the author of *Heterotopia: Lektüren einer interkulturellen Literaturwissenschaft* (Heterotopia: Readings in an Intercultural Literature Studies, 1997) and has recently edited *Kulturelle Topografien* (Cultural Topographies, 2004).

Rüdiger Görner has been director of the Institute of Germanic Studies, University of London, since 1999, and has recently accepted the chair of German at Queen Mary, University of London. His research interests include cultural interaction in art and politics, German federal theory and practice, German nationhood, and the history of the Jewish question in Germany and Austria. Besides being an active literary critic (*Neue Zürcher Zeitung* and *Die Presse*), anthologist, translator and editor, he has written books on Rilke, Goethe, Hölderlin, Nietzsche, German federalism, the *Heimat*-concept, the absurd, literature and music, late modern literature, English literature and literary London. Some of his border-related books are *Grenzgänger: Dichter und Denker im Dazwischen* (Border-Walkers: Poets and Thinkers in the In-Between, 1996), *Mauer, Schatten, Gerüst: Kulturkritische Versuche* (Walls, Shadows, Scaffolding: Essays in Cultural Criticism, 1999), *Nachdenken über Grenzen* (Reflecting on Borders, ed. with Suzanne Kirkbright, 1999), and *Grenzen, Schwellen, Übergänge* (Borders, Thresholds, Passages, 2002).

Malene Vest Hansen Ph.D., Ass. Research Professor at the Department of Art History and Theatre Research, Copenhagen University. Conceptually based art and (feminist) theories of representation form the main area of her art historical interests. She has lately focused on the problematization of private/public spaces in contemporary art praxises, on performativity and visual arts. This study was initiated by research on French conceptual artist Sophie Calle's autobiographical strategies and their critical potential as "public art", the topic of her Ph.D.dissertation. Art History studies and research, mainly at Copenhagen University, and two years at Columbia University, New York City. Work as an art critic, and as editor of the Art Historical periodical *Periskop*. Co-edited *Container 96 - Art Across Oceans*.

Lene Johannessen Dr.art, is a NFR postdoctoral fellow at the English department, University of Bergen. Her research interests are American, Chicano, Postcolonial literatures and cultures, theories of language, politics and theories of identity. She is currently working on the project 'Architectonics of Memory in Exile and Migration,' which explores the tropology of the migratory in American literature.

Svend Erik Larsen dr. phil., is Professor at the Department of Comparative Literature, Aarhus University. He was previously Center Director of the Humanities Research Center, Man and Nature, in Odense (1992-1997). He is a member of the board of International Comparative Literature Association and of Academia Europaea. His latest publications are *Signs in Use* (2002) (with J. Dines Johansen), *Mutters alene* (All Alone, 2002), and *I byen med Balzac* (In the City with Balzac, 2002).

Lena Liepe is Professor of Art History at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Tromsø, where she is also faculty vice dean and research coordinator. Her main area of research is Nordic and North European medieval art and architecture. Among her most recent publications are *Den medeltida kroppen: Kroppens och könets ikonografi i nordisk medeltid* (The Medieval Body: The Iconography of

Body and Gender in the Nordic Middle Ages, 2003) and *Medieval Stone Churches of Northern Norway: The Interpretation of Architecture as a Historical Process* (2001). She has also written on the epistemology of images and on the alterity of the past in sexual imagery.

Johan Schimanski Dr.Art, is Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at the Department of Culture and Literature, University of Tromsø, Norway. He has worked on 18th century literary forgeries, literature in Welsh, science fiction, genre theory, lyric poetry, national identity in literature, arctic discourse and postcolonialism. At present he is working on a book on border poetics and narrative descriptions of border-crossings.

Stephen Wolfe Ph.D., is Visiting Associate Professor of Literature in the Department of Culture and Literature, University of Tromsø. He has published essays on the British Romantic Period, Border Poetics and Theory, Trans-Atlantic Literatures, and narrative structures in the 18th and 19th Century captivity narrative. He is currently working on a book length manuscript on tropes of dependence, transgression, and independence in Trans-Atlantic literatures of the 18th and 19th Centuries.