Weekly Round-Up, 17 March 2022

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1 Lectures and Events

Internal

1.1 The Heritage of Humanism and Enlightenment in Exile Literature

International Conference, Thursday 24 and Friday 25 March 2022
Maplethorpe Seminar Room, St Hugh's College, Oxford OX2 6LE

'The literature of German writers who fled into all countries of the world can most aptly be conceived of and described as a humanist front against the National Socialist Third Reich, despite all antagonisms and tensions in their own free realm', wrote Walter A. Berendsohn, who is considered the founding father of the study of exile literature, in 1946. His conception of exile literature as 'a self-contained period of German literary history' may no longer be accepted in scholarship. Yet its premise, namely that writers were drawing on a certain set of shared values, remains broadly valid, no matter how varied the awareness and understanding of what is 'humanist' may have been.

Our conference aims to illuminate the commonalities, differences, and nuances in the ways German-speaking exiled writers are committed to salvaging, upholding, and reinterpreting values that date back to – or are associated with – humanism and Enlightenment. To what extent do these values serve as a common heritage? In his biographical essay on Michel de Montaigne (1942), Stefan Zweig contrasts barbarism with the spiritual and intellectual freedom of the individual. He invokes a shared history, reclaiming the ideals of the Enlightenment, yet how these can be preserved for future generations remains unanswered – this applies not only to Zweig, but also his contemporaries.

Contributions address the extent to which humanism and Enlightenment serve as orientation for exiled writers; identify traditions and representatives of intellectual life that are invoked in support; explore literary utopias developed in literature which are modelled on the ideas and ideals of humanism and Enlightenment; evaluate the limits of these ideas and ideals as well as their 'dialectics'; consider the function of mythological and historical narratives, and the role of biographies of iconic figures; and last but not least, examine the relevance of humanism and Enlightenment to the question of how literature can, or should, exercise political influence in, and from, exile.

The Programme is available here.

Organisers: Ritchie Robertson (The Queens College, Oxford), Arturo Larcati (Stefan Zweig Zentrum, Salzburg), Margit Dirscherl (LMU Munich), Tom Kuhn (St Hugh's College, Oxford)
Colleagues and students are welcome to attend; please register by 20/3 via email to margit.dirscherl@lmu.de
Generously supported by: Modern Humanities Research Association, Stefan Zweig Zentrum Salzburg, Münchener Universitätsgesellschaft, Austrian Cultural Forum London.

https://stefan-zweig-zentrum.at/de/das-zentrum/veranstaltungen/konferenz-in-oxford/

1.2 Celebrating the Complete Works of Voltaire

5.00pm Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, Thursday 17 March

The Voltaire Foundation is celebrating a remarkable achievement: the publication of the Complete Works of Voltaire in 205 volumes. https://www.voltaire.ox.ac.uk/our-publications/

This 50-year project finishes this month. To mark this milestone, we are presenting a lecture by the well-known Enlightenment historian, Professor Robert Darnton, on the subject of Theatricality and Violence in Paris, 1788. Before the lecture the Vice-Chancellor, Louise Richardson, will introduce a short film, Editing Voltaire.

Attendance is free but please register for a place by emailing birgit.mikus@voltaire.ox.ac.uk

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Any weekly round-up attachments can be found at the following link:
https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/access/content/group/modlang/general/weekly_roundup/index.html
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1.3 Oxford Literary Festival

25th March - 4th April

The Festival hosts a range of international speakers from a variety of disciplines. Some of the programmes might be of interest to students and tutors of the University Language faculties.

For more information please visit the following pages:

https://oxfordliteraryfestival.org/literature-events/2022/italian-programme

https://oxfordliteraryfestival.org/literature-events/2022/french-programme

https://oxfordliteraryfestival.org/literature-events/2022/swedish-programme

https://oxfordliteraryfestival.org/literature-events/2022/russia

For any queries, please email olivia.downes@pmb.ox.ac.uk

1.4 Oxford Global History Centre Inaugural Antony Gwilliam Annual Lecture

Friday 20 May, 17:00 | West Wing, St Cross College

Professor Jamie Belich (Oxford), 'Why Europe? Y. Pestis. The Black Death and the Rise of Europe'
Booking required: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/oxford-centre-for-global-history-inaugural-annual-anthony-gwilliam-lecture-tickets-288449900417

2 Calls for Papers

2.1 'Space, Time, and Direction', 19th Annual German Graduate Symposium

Week 2 of Trinity Term, the 6th and 7th of May 2022 Taylor Institution Library, Oxford (/Hybrid Format)

The workshop will be conducted in English. Graduate students and scholars are invited to submit a 250 word abstract together with a short bio until 7th April 2022.

For further details, please email alexandra.hertlein@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk or sarah.fengler@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk

* Please see item 2.1 attachment for further information:
https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/poNroj

2.2 'Dangerous Creations' Poetry Competition – Call for Submissions

Submission deadline: 23 March 2022 (Wednesday, 10th week Hilary).

The "samizdat" (Russian: self-publication) sphere that flourished between c.1980-1990 in former East Germany produced an extraordinary flowering of hundreds of tiny magazines and graphic/poetry journals that evaded the strict censorship of the state. Ní Chroidheáin's 'Dangerous Creations' doctoral research project has included the "samizdat" printing workshop, a graduate lecture entitled "Stasi & Samizdat" and will include a roundtable discussion on 8th April 2022.

Inspired by the "samizdat" printing movement in the GDR, and in collaboration with the Taylor Institution Library, Ní Chroidheáin will be editing a short publication to catalogue to best of this exciting research and learning program. This publication has place for a selection of student-written poetry. Featured texts in this publication: a foreword by Schwarz-Taylor Chair, Prof. Karen Leeder, a selection of articles by leading academics on subversive self-printing movements in Europe, along with a feature poem by award-winning poet, Uwe Kolbe.

Writers may submit up to two poems (in English or in German) not exceeding 40 lines in length on the subject of secrecy as part of this competition. Poems need not be focused on the GDR unofficial, "samizdat" scene. Entries should be submitted by email with the subject "Dangerous Creations- Poetry" to aoife.nichroidheain@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk, no later than 23 March 2022 (Wednesday, 10th week Hilary). The five winning poems will be published by The Taylor Institution Library as part of the 'Dangerous Creations' publication.

* Please see item 2.2 attachment for further information:
 https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/v1GiBi

2.3 UK Libraries and Archives Group on Africa: Call for Papers for the Upcoming SCOLMA 60th Anniversary Conference Africa and the Environment: Documenting and Archiving a Changing Climate, Wednesday 29 June

Africa's natural environment is rich and diverse, ranging from its wildlife and plants to its land and resources. It is also one of the continents most severely affected by climate change, with increasingly erratic weather events adversely impacting biodiversity, agriculture and those living there. This conference will explore library and archive material relating to Africa and the environment and how they are collected, catalogued, preserved, and used in research and teaching.

Librarians, archivists, and researchers are invited to submit abstracts of up to **350 words for consideration to Sarah Rhodes** by 18 March 2022.

3 Adverts

Jobs, Recruitment and Volunteering

3.1 Seeking German Language Tutor

Jericho, Oxford
Date/time/deadline 10th April 2022

I am looking for a (paid) German language tutor for my son, to meet for at least two hours per week at our home in Jericho. My son is only three years old, so we are looking for someone who can teach through play, rather than formal lessons. We would prefer a native speaker, but are open to non-Native fluent speakers! Please get in touch to discuss further.

For further details, please email Jessica Jacobson jacobson.jessicaariel@gmail.com

3.2 Oxford AI Society Mentorship Program with Google

The Oxford Artificial Intelligence Society https://oxai.org/ is excited to welcome Googlers to provide mentorship for University of Oxford students who feel underrepresented in the AI/tech industry.

The Mentorship Program is for any current University of Oxford student. The program begins on April 11, 2022. The deadline to apply is March 25, 2022, at 11:59 PM BST. Apply by clicking on the application form link: https://lnkd.in/e544GJp3

Students will be paired with a Google mentor who will offer professional guidance and advice. All personal and academic backgrounds are invited to apply, no CV is required, and no need to have a technology-related degree of study. You should apply if you are: interested in a career in technology/AI industries; would like to gain professional development insights from a Google mentor; and feel that individuals like you are underrepresented in the tech/AI sector.

For any queries, please email haider.iqbal@kellogg.ox.ac.uk

Miscellaneous

3.3 DPhil students: Opportunity to Present your Thesis on Café Lumières Blog

Are you a DPhil student working on the 18th century/the Enlightenment/History of Ideas? If you would like to present your thesis topic to an interested audience in an informal or general public way, please consider writing a short blog about your project for Café Lumières (https://cafelumieres.voltaire.ox.ac.uk/home/) .

This is a collaborative blog between the Voltaire Foundation (https://www.voltaire.ox.ac.uk/) and the IZEA in Halle, Germany (https://www.izea.uni-halle.de/en.html), both research departments for 18th Century and Enlightenment Studies.

Café Lumières is currently bilingual (German and English), but we welcome other European languages, too. If you are interested or have any questions, please feel free to contact Birgit Mikus for more information. Birgit Mikus at birgit.mikus@voltaire.ox.ac.uk

3.4 Tandem English German

Dear reader,
I am looking for someone who wants to learn German. I study Psychology in Lüneburg, Germany. We could speak weekly.

If you are interested, please email Dominik Sprute dominik-sprute@gmx.de

* Please see item 3.4 attachment for further information:
https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/jaoe8y

4 Year Abroad

4.1 Job Opportunities

The latest job opportunities and internships received by the Faculty can now be found via the new jobs board:
https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/37004/pages/year-abroad-adverts?module_item_id=383619

The new Canvas Year Abroad pages are now 'live':
https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/37004