Programme of Events 2006-2007



The founding of the Bachmann Centre in 2002 was an important initiative in bringing to a wider audience the rich and varied contribution made by Austria to modern German-language literature. With the support of the Austrian Cultural Forum, the Erste Bank and the Österreich Kooperation, the Centre has established itself at the forefront of research on Austrian culture and literature, reaching out beyond the confines of academia and provoking a lively interest in Austrian literature amongst the English-speaking public.

This year's programme is as varied as in previous years. In addition to its seminar series, reading group, and the fourth international postgraduate workshop on current research in Austrian literature, the programme features a conference on Arthur Schnitzler, organized in collaboration with the University of Cambridge, a workshop on theatre and politics in the Austrian Second Republic, and readings by Franzobel (writer-in-residence at the Centre), Alfred Kolleritsch, and Marlen Schachinger.

The first Bachmann Centre Lecture, given last year by Professor Ritchie Robertson (Oxford), will be published by the Austrian Cultural Forum in the 'Occasions' series, and the papers given at the (Wieder)aufbau workshop will shortly appear as volume 90 in the Institute's series 'Publications of the Institute of Germanic Studies'.

Events are open to anyone who is interested.

Autumn 2006

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austrian cultural forum on

First Meeting: Thursday, 12 October 2006

3 - 5 p.m.

Literary Contributions to an Austrian and German Post-War Identity

This year's seminar series [Denkanstöße] will examine the role played by literature in defining a specific Austrian or German identity after 1945. The discussion will focus on examples that highlight the differences between Austrian and German discourse. Meetings will take place on 12 October, 9 November, 14 December 2006, and on 18 January, 1 March, 29 March, 10 May, and 14 June 2007. Further details are available from the convenors. Martin Liebscher and Godela Weiss-Sussex (London). Venue: University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1 (Room ST 276)

READING GROUP First Meeting: Wednesday, 18 October 2006 3 - 5 p.m.

World War II in Post-War European Literature

This year the Reading Group will examine the different ways in which various European countries dealt with the aftermath of the Second World War. The first meeting will focus on the Austrian perspective, with Martin Liebscher introducina Ingebora Bachmann's short story 'Among Murderers and Madmen'. Meetings will take place on 18 October and 29 November 2006, and 31 January, 14 March and 23 May 2007. For further details and texts contact the convenor, Martin Liebscher (London).

Venue: University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1 (Room ST 276)

CONFERENCE

Friday, 17 and Saturday, 18 November 2006

Arthur Schnitzler: His Cambridge Manuscripts, His European Experience

This conference, organized to mark the 75th anniversary of the death of the novelist and playwright, aims to shed new light on his work and time by focusing on his as yet largely unpublished literary legacy preserved in Cambridge University Library. In conjunction with the conference, there will be an exhibition of Schnitzler's manuscripts in the Library, Organizer: Lorenzo Belletini (Cambridge). For further information visit www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/2006-7/schnitzler.html

Venue: Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, 17 Mill Lane, Cambridge

WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE January 2007

Franzobel

Franzobel, one of the most acclaimed contemporary Austrian writers, will be the Centre's writer-in-residence in January 2007. Best known for his humorous and satirical novels and plays, he was awarded the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize in 1995 for his story 'Die Krautflut'. Among his most recent publications are the novel Das Fest der Steine oder Die Wunderkammer der Exzentrik (2005) and the play Wir wollen den Messias jetzt oder Die beschleunigte Familie (2005). Franzobel will give a reading at the Austrian Cultural Forum, London, and a seminar at the Centre. For further details, contact Martin Liebscher (London). Advance registration for the seminar essential.

READING AND SEMINAR

Alfred Kolleritsch

Alfred Kolleritsch has been one of the most influential novelists and poets on the Austrian literary scene in the last few decades. He was one of the founders of the Grazer Forum Stadtpark, and its president from 1968 to 1995. In 1960 he established the literary magazine manuskripte. His work includes the novels Die Pfirsichtöter (1972) and Allemann (1989), and the poetry collections Gegenwege (1991) and Befreiung des Empfindens (1994). Kolleritsch will give a reading at the Austrian Cultural Forum, in conjunction with an exhibition of drawings by the artist Hartmut Urban (1941-1997), and a seminar at the Centre. For further details, contact Martin Liebscher (London). Advance registration for the seminar essential.

WORKSHOP Friday, 27 April 2007

Theatre and Politics in the Austrian Second Republic

Klaus Zeyringer will be among the international scholars who will examine the role played by the theatre in defining Austria's identity in the period from 1945 until the present day. On the one hand, the theatre has been a platform for the political establishment, on the other, for dramatists such as Thomas Bernhard and Elfriede Jelinek, a vehicle for political criticism. The Salzburg Festival and the Burgtheater are prominent examples of the close relationship between the stage and politics. A detailed programme will be available early in March. Organizers: Heide Kunzelmann (Aston) and Martin Liebscher (London).

Venue: University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1 (Room ST 273)

WORKSHOP

Thursday, 7 and Friday, 8 June 2007

5.30 for 6 p.m.

4th International Postgraduate Workshop on Current Research in Austrian Literature

This annual workshop offers postgraduate students working in the field of Austrian literature an opportunity to present their work and discuss aspects of it with colleagues and other specialists. A detailed programme will be available in the spring. Organizer: Martin Liebscher (London).

Venue: University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1 (Room ST 273)

READING Thursday, 7 June 2007

Marlen Schachinger

Schachinger read comparative literature in Vienna and has been a freelance author since 1999. Her work includes the novels morgen, vielleicht (2000) and Der Unschuld Verlust (2005), and the short story collection Störung (2004). Marlen Schachinger will read from her latest work, Wien. Stadt der Frauen. Eine Reiseführerin, a fascinating guide to Vienna and the women who have contributed to its history.

Venue: University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1 (Room ST 273)

For further information contact: Dr Martin Liebscher, Centre Co-Ordinator, at the address overleaf. Tel: 020 7862 8959. Email: martin.liebscher@sas.ac.uk

Spring 2007