

Interculturality, Transmediality, and Hybridity of the Western Genre (Mainz, 05.-06.04.13)

International and Interdisciplinary Conference

Final conference of the research project "Global Western – intercultural transformations of the American genre par excellence"

Funded by the German Research Association (DFG)

www.western-global.de

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz 05/06 April 2013

Fakultätssaal Philosophicum

Jakob-Welder-Weg 18

55128 Mainz

The closing conference of the research project "Global Western – Intercultural Transformations of the American Genre par excellence" is devoted to a broad spectrum of the Western's global transformations. Aspects of interculturality, intermediality and transmediality will be discussed thereby.

The initial point is the project's fundamental thesis that although the US Western genre is hegemonic, this is not the only shape the Western genre takes. The US Western, the history of which is rather heterogeneous, developed a certain syntax (keyword: frontier), whose semantic elements diversely influenced other national cinemas eventually condensing to a syntax of its own. Starting with this, the conference will dedicate itself to Latin American, Asian and Australian cinema, which use Western elements very differently. Apart from the semantic/syntactic approach to genre analysis and the notion of national cinema, there is also the possibility of using the concepts of hybridity, identity/alterity, imitation, inversion, alienation, pastiche and parody.

Various other media have tried to apply elements of the Western as well. However, this is often overlooked when trying to illuminate all facets of the Western film. The Western was used as a story world on a broad scale - ranging from comics, television to video games. The accompanying intermedia and transmedia processes are going to be subjects of the conference.

The conference will be held in English.

For further information please contact:

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PROGRAM

FRIDAY 05 APRIL 2013

- 09:30 – 09:40 Greeting by the Director of ZIS (Center for Intercultural Studies) Anton Escher
- 09:40 – 10:00 Thomas Klein (Mainz): Introduction to the research project

Section 1: Western and Interculturality

- 10:00 – 10:45 Andrew Hurley (Sydney): "Aboriginal Cowboys? On the Possibilities of the Western in Australia's 'Far West'"
- 10:45 – 11:30 Teruaki Georges Sumioka (Osaka): "The Japanese Action Film: The Missing Link between the Nostalgic Hollywood-Western and Dry Italo-Western"

11:30 – 11:45 *Coffee Break*

11:45 – 12:30 Sven Pötting (Cologne): "Civilization and Barbarism in the Argentine Gaucho-Western"

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

Panel Mexican Film

- 14:00 – 14:45 Siboney Obscura Gutiérrez (Mexico City): "Intertextual Elements in the Mexican Western of the 1960s"
- 14:45 – 15:30 Maria Imhof (Cologne): "Western at the Border. The Western in Mexico and Mexico in the Western"
- 15:30 – 16:15 Christian Wehr (Eichstätt-Ingolstadt): "Elements of the Western in Mexican Cinema from Fernando de Fuentes to Arturo Ripstein"

16:15 – 16:30 *Coffee Break*

Panel Indian Film

- 16:30 – 17:15 Stefan Borsos (Cologne): "Cowboys and Indians. *Sholay* as an Instance of Intercultural Exchange and Transnational Flow"
- 17:15 – 18:00 Cornelia Günauer (Mainz): "Vegetarianism, Clint Eastwood, and Tamil Identity – the Making of an Indian Superhero"

20:00 *Dinner*

SATURDAY 06 April 2013

Section 2: Western and Transmediality/Hybridity

- 10:00 – 10:45 Oliver Schmidt (Hamburg): "Once Upon a Time in Verona Beach". Hybrid Genre Spaces in Baz Luhrman's *Romeo + Juliet*"
- 10:45 – 11:30 Andreas Rauscher (Mainz): "Virtual Westworld – Western Scenarios in Video Games"
- 11:30 – 11:45 *Coffee Break*
- 11:45 – 12:30 Michael Gruteser (Berlin): "*Wild Winds* - Creating a Wild West Comic Book"
- 12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch*
- Panel Television Series
- 13:30 – 14:15 Thomas Klein (Mainz): "Remediating the Past. The Evolution of the Television Western Series"
- 14:15 – 15:00 Christian Hißnauer (Göttingen): "Test the West - Western Elements in the German Police Procedural *Tatort*"
- 15:00 – 15:15 *Coffee Break*
- 15:15 – 16:00 Final Discussion