

Disembodied Voices Unembodied Narration

“Who speaks?” is, without a doubt, the founding question of narratology. The workshop intends to discuss the anthropocentric assumptions underlying the category of voice by looking at literary texts that problematize these assumptions and in doing so question the premises and possibilities of narration itself.

In how far does narration depend upon a communicational context? To what extent is the narrator a category of anthropomorphic embodiment? Since Plato's criterion of discourse, an anthropocentric notion of narrative voice has arguably been the defining transcendental characteristic of narration. In narrative literary texts as well as in literary theory this condition of possibility for narration came under severe scrutiny, especially in the 20th century. In an attempt to counter the anthropomorphic and logocentric bias of narrative voice and its underlying notion of subjectivity, concepts such as Flaubert's *impersonnalité* or Blanchot's neutral *voix narrative* propose a disembodiment and radical textualisation of narrative voice that finds its echoes not just in a number of 'experimental' narrative projects and poststructural theories of textuality, but also in narratological approaches such as Banfield's concept of 'un-speakable sentences'.

Joyce, Beckett, the *nouveau roman*, Christine Brooke-Rose, Juan Goytisolo and Julio Cortázar, to name just a few, focus on the possibilities of narration in particular by complicating and de-anthropomorphising the instance of the narrator and narrative voice. They, thereby, foreground the semiological modellings of our world as well as the discursive apparatuses and operations involved in worldmaking. It is with a view to the limits, possibilities and discursive conditions of narration and narratability that the workshop will discuss disembodied voices and unembodied narration.

Veranstaltungsort:
Freie Universität Berlin
Topoi Building Dahlem
Hittorfstraße 18
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Anfahrt:
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Gestaltung: Valerie Kiendl, München



DISEMBODIED UNEMBODIED VOICES Interdisciplinary Workshop NARRATION

21. / 22. November 2014

Freie Universität Berlin
Topoi Building Dahlem
Hittorfstr. 18, 14195 Berlin

Nouveau discours du
récit discours Modus Metal
Oralität & Schriftlichkeit
Extradiegese récit first
Fokalisierung histoire
third person stream of
consciousness
Stimme
plot
Chronotopos GENETTE E
effet de réel Distan
FLUDERNIK Intradiegese
experientiality ERZ
BARTHES Assoziatio
discours indirect li
fabula LAKOFF iteratives Er
showing Kommunikationsdis
sequential art HERMANN pa
Anachronie unreliable na
telling unnatural narr
RIMMON-KENAN Sprachhandlung
focalizer Polyphonie
Anthropomorphisierung Text
voix narrative/narra
Diaphanes Erzählen BACHTIN
BLANCHOT Ellipse sjuzhe
reflector

...who speaks?



Friday, 21. November 2014

9:15-9:45 Opening

9:45-10:30 Andrew Gibson (RHC London)
Historicity and the Disembodied Voice: Joyce and Foucault

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-11:45 Jan Alber (Århus)
The Disembodiment of the Narrative Instance in Postmodern Fiction

11:45-12:30 Irina Rajewsky (FU Berlin)
Der Mythos des ‚erzählerlosen Erzählens‘ revisited

– 12:30-14:00 Lunch –

14:00-14:45 Kurt Hahn (Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)
Friedhof des Erzählens, Geburt der Sprache(n): Enthemmte Textualität in Juan Goytisolos ‚Roman‘ *Makbara*

14:45-15:30 Hermann Doetsch (München)
Rayuel-o-matics und andere Textmaschinen. Medialität und Schreibprogramme des hispano-amerikanischen Romans

15:30-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-16:45 Sascha Pöhlmann (München)
Dehumanizing Humanism: Culture and Narrative in David Markson's Tetralogy

16:45-17:30 André Otto (FU Berlin)
Imperative Violence: Voice and States of Exception in Beckett's Later Fiction

– 19:30 Conference Dinner –

Saturday, 22. November 2014

9:30-10:15 Andreas Blödorn (Münster)
Nichts/Etwas: Die Entkörperung der Stimme und die Ästhetik des Paradoxen bei John Cage

10:15-11:00 Anne Enderwitz (FU Berlin)
Impressionism and Impersonal Prose in Virginia Woolf's *The Waves*

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-12:15 Els Jongeneel (Groningen)
Unembodied Narration in Robert Pinget's *Cette voix*

12:15-13:00 Andreas Mahler (FU Berlin)
Die Entleibung des Ich. Struktur und Funktion des ›je-néant‹ in Alain Robbe-Grillet's *La Jalousie*

– 13:00-14:30 Lunch –

14:30-15:15 Brigitte Rath (FU Berlin)
Embodied, Reembodied, Disembodied: Transmigration and the Limits of Focalization

15:15-16:00 Liviu Lutas (Växjö-Kalmar)
Breaking the Bodily Limits of the Enunciator: Metalepsis in Ramuz, Chamoiseau and Ndiaye

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-17:15 Jeff Thoss (FU Berlin)
His Master's Voice: Metalepsis and Narrative Authority in Flann O'Brien's Novels

17:15-18:00 Closing discussion