



International Workshop

July 18–19, 2022, Freie Universität Berlin

Literature's Loneliness A Comparative Perspective

Is literature lonely? Are changes in poetics and aesthetics correlated with discourses on solitude? Do genres like the novel and the lyrical poem evolve in conjunction with concepts and practices of retreat, introspection, isolation, and contemplation? How does literary loneliness change in digital environments? Pursuing these questions in a comparative perspective, the workshop's participants will discuss if and how notions of solitude and loneliness contribute to our understanding of what constitutes 'the literary.' Different cultures, languages, social contexts, and media will be taken into account, as will be issues of gender, race, and class. Excerpts from literary texts and research papers will be pre-circulated so that the workshop itself can be reserved for discussion.

Monday, July 18, 2022

13.00–13.30 Welcome and Introduction

13.30–14.30 Amelia Worsley (Amherst)
Singing to Echo: Milton's Lady in *The Masque Presented at Ludlow Castle* (1634)

14.30–15.30 Marlene Dirschauer (Berlin/Hamburg)
The Common Voice of Loneliness

15.30–16.00 Coffee Break

16.00–17.00 Julie Park (State College)
My Dark Room: Spaces of the Inner Self in Eighteenth-Century England

17.00–18.00 Kathrin Wittler (Berlin)
Translating Concepts of Solitude: Zimmermann's *Über die Einsamkeit* (1784/85) and its French and English Adaptations

18.30 Dinner

Tuesday, July 19, 2022

9.30–10.30 Yoshiaki Furui (Tokio)
Lonely Individualism in Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick*

10.30–11.30 Florian Hannig (Gießen/Berlin)
Feeling Solitude: The Expression of Emotions in Loneliness Memoirs

11.30–12.00 Coffee Break

12.00–13.00 Paul Wolff (Berlin)
Collective Solitude in Social Media Literature

13.00–14.00 Final Discussion

14.00 Lunch and Goodbye

**Freie Universität, Habelschwerdter Allee 45,
Room JK 33/121**



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For more information and to register for participation,
please contact organiser Kathrin Wittler:
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