

Dr. Marc Caplan (Wrocław)

Workshop

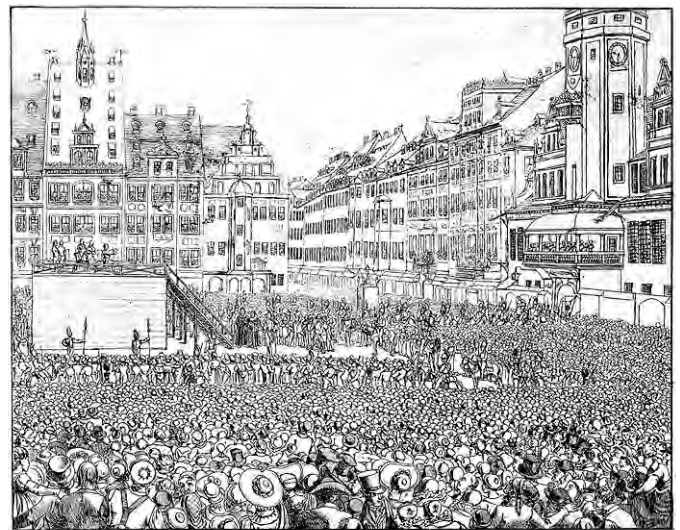
Demobbed, Depressed, Deranged:
Dislocation and Disenchantment
in Post-World War I Literature



Montag, 3. Juni 2019,
10:00 – 13:00, 14:30 – 16:00 Uhr
Raum 24.21.00.61

Vortrag

An Overture to Modernism:
Georg Büchner, Karl-Emil Franzos,
and the Evolution of Alban Berg's
Wozzeck



I. C. Woyzeck.
Gibt seinen Tod als romanvoller Christ entgegen, auf dem Marktplatz zu Leipzig, den 27. August 1924.

Dienstag, 4. Juni 2019, 18:00 Uhr
Großer Vortragsraum der Universitäts-
und Landesbibliothek Düsseldorf

Studierende und Lehrende aller Fächer sind herzlich eingeladen!

Demobbed, Depressed, Deranged: Dislocation and Disenchantment in Post-World War I Literature

This workshop will gather four central works depicting the aftermath of World War I: Ernest Hemingway's story-cycle *In Our Time*, Yisroel Rabon's Yiddish novel *Di Gas* (The Street), Joseph Roth's *Hotel Savoy*, and Virginia Woolf's *Mrs Dalloway*. Focusing on works of American, Yiddish, German, and British narrative, we will consider themes of ethical disillusionment and social dissolution that characterize global literature across national, linguistic, ideological, and even gendered lines. Paradoxically, at a moment of overwhelming social disunity and fragmentation, commonalities of aesthetic strategy emerge to connect literary depictions of trauma, despair, and isolation; the failure of ideologies dedicated to pragmatism, positivism, and progress creates a new politics for the modern novel, exemplified by leading representatives under consideration in this comparison.

Wir bitten alle Interessierten, sich per Mail beim Sekretariat der Jiddistik anzumelden (jiddisch@phil.hhu.de), damit wir ihnen die Textauszüge zu dieser Veranstaltung im Voraus zukommen lassen können.

Prof. Dr. Soelwe Curdts, Anglistik
Prof. Dr. Volker Dörr, Germanistik
Prof. Dr. Efrat Gal-Ed, Jüdische Studien

An Overture to Modernism: Georg Büchner, Karl-Emil Franzos, and the Evolution of Alban Berg's *Wozzeck*

This lecture will discuss the textual history of Georg Büchner's posthumous dramatic fragment *Woyzeck*, from its first publication in the 1870s, forty years after Büchner's death, to its theatrical debut just before World War I, to its transformation into Alban Berg's first opera, *Wozzeck* (1925), one of the great achievements in German-language musical modernism. The central mediating figure between Büchner and Berg is Karl-Emil Franzos (1848–1904), who first prepared Büchner's fragments for publication, transcribing his misreading of the work's title as *Wozzeck* rather than *Woyzeck* for posterity. In addition to his editorial work, Franzos was a leading exponent of the *Ghettoliteratur* genre, which presented portraits of his native East European Jewish origins for a liberal German readership. Franzos's understanding of Büchner shares in his translation, and scribal errors, of Yiddish culture into German. Berg's dramatic decisions and musical transformation in turn amplifies on the formal, dramatic, and allegorical significance of Franzos's representation of Büchner's work.

Marc Caplan ist ein international ausgewiesener Experte, dessen Forschung zur Moderne nicht nur ein breites literatur- und kulturwissenschaftliches Spektrum umfasst, sondern auch völlig neue Akzente setzt, indem sie vermeintlich marginale Literaturen und Kulturen, wie etwa die jiddische, als integralen und konstitutiven Bestandteil einer inhärent transkulturellen Moderne begreift.