Call for papers: CUSO workshop Theories of Intermediality

Fr., 17 October 2014 & Sat., 18 October 2014 Location: Hotel Lindenhof, Brienz am See

The concept of intermediality reflects the prevailing view of literary scholars today that literature can no longer be understood in splendid isolation, but that its role should be appraised in a cultural field characterized by the competition and collaboration of different media. As a central notion in the comparison of the arts and the media, the concept of intermediality allows for an analysis of literary texts against the backdrop of their cultural context from systematic and historical perspectives. Taking into account the history and collaboration of all media, i.e. their network of connections, scholars of intermediality investigate how meaning is generated in/by inter- and multi-medial constellations and cross-medial references.

The current popularity and increasing importance of intermediality studies can be attributed to the fact that many visual works of art, cultural artefacts and literary texts including novels, short stories and poems today refer to other media such as music and pictures in a plethora of ways: intermedial literary texts, for instance, transgress their own medial boundary – writing – by either including pictures and illustrations or by referring to absent (static and moving, analogue and digital) pictures, by imitating filmic modes or by mimicking musical structures and themes.

The aim of the workshop is to familiarize students with a range of theories of intermediality developed by the invited leading scholars in the field and to vet students' methodological tools when dealing with medially hybrid artefacts.

We invite PhD students from all disciplines to present their work for about 15 minutes, followed by discussion. Each of the three guest speakers will give a talk on their specific research interests and where possible we will group guest speakers and participants according to topic in the panels.

Possible topics for student presentations are:

- Text/image relationships
- Literature and music
- Ekphrasis
- Adaptation and Remediation
- Comics and Graphic Novels
- Illustrations
- Literature and the visual arts
- Literature and the moving image
- Literature and the new media

Talks will be given by the following guest speakers:

- Prof. James A. W. Heffernan (Dartmouth College/USA): "Intermediality: The Ekphrastic Approach"
- Prof. Werner Wolf (University of Graz/Austria): "Literature and Music Mapping an Intermedial Field"
- Prof. Lars Elleström (Linnaeus University, Sweden): "On the Margins of Media Transformation: The Transfer of Media Characteristics Between and Within Media"

PhD students interested in presenting their work should send a 300-word abstract of their presentation to the workshop organizers Prof. Gabriele Rippl and PD Dr. Julia Straub by **24 August 2014**.

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