Event – Dispositif – Agency in the Arts and Literature (1750-1980)

Workshop at Dahlem Humanities Center (Freie Universität Berlin)

11 January 2018

The workshop addresses the problem of reconstructing “artistic” experience, where “artistic” is defined by an event’s sponsors, participants, or audience. We will approach this frame of experience not only as a set of rules of conduct, changing through time, but also as a site of knowledge production. The workshop will bring together researchers working on approaches to experience and its reconstruction ‘from below,’ from both historical and theoretical perspectives, across geographical areas and art forms. While spurring reflection on the possible sources for the historical reconstruction of an experience framed as artistic, the workshop aims at a broad revision of the studies in ‘reception’ of the arts. This rethinking will draw on recent developments not only in everyday history, but also in the history of the senses and emotions, as well as in qualitative social history.

Keywords: art and experience, art and agency, subject and subjectivity, social history, sociology of the arts, reception, non-expert knowledge, interactions, social anthropology, art and ethnography, power, dispositif.

Programme

9.30-11.00
Discussant: Gigi Adair (Potsdam)
Alexei Evstratov (Berlin): Event – Dispositif – Agency. Theories and Histories
Marianne Brooker (London): ‘This strange and mixed assemblage’: ‘Co-perusal’ in Sir John Soane’s House and Museum

11.30-13.00
Discussant: Gesa Frömming (Berlin)
Stacie Allan (Oxford): Emotional Connections, Philosophical Reflections, and Reciprocal Reading Practices: The Example of Claire de Duras’s Édouard (1825)
Kirill Ospovat (Berlin): Proletarian Reading: Literature and the Lower Classes in Dostoevsky’s Poor Folk

14.30-16.00
Discussant: Mischa Gabowitsch (Potsdam)
Ilya Venyavkin (Moscow): Stalin, Kirov, and Invisible Death: Audience of Terror in Soviet Culture of the 1930s

16.30-18.00
Discussant: Fabian Goppelsröder (Berlin)
Alo Paistik (Paris): Ways of reconstructing the sites of experience of early cinema
Esteban Buch (Paris): For a micro-history of the listening experience

Venue:
“Rostlaube” - Room L 115
Habelschwerdter Allee 45
14195 Berlin-Dahlem