Call for Papers

Writing Multiculturalism in Austria

44th Annual Convention, Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA)
March 21-24, 2013
Boston, Massachusetts
Host Institution: Tufts University

The last two decades have witnessed a growing number of literary works emerging from Austria that grapple with questions related to the contentious topics of integration and multiculturalism in the Second Republic. These cultural developments can be viewed in light of geopolitical shifts in and around Austria during the 1990s (e.g. the formation of post-Soviet states, the Yugoslav wars and disintegration, Austria’s accession to the EU), which propelled an influx of refugees, asylum seekers, foreign workers and migrants into Austria. In 2000, the ÖVP/FPÖ government coalition occasioned a critical reassessment of perceptions regarding integration and belonging within Austrian borders.

This panel invites papers that investigate works responding to these political, cultural and social shifts. Some works to consider would be those by both minority and non-minority writers such as Dimitré Dinev, Vladimir Vertlib, Semier Insayif, Doron Rabinovici, Elfriede Jelinek or Barbara Frischmuth. What narrative techniques and genres have these authors employed to articulate challenges of integration? How do they grapple with the ethical and political dimensions of an increasingly pluralistic society? While similarities exist, the discussion of multiculturalism in Austria has not run the same course as in Germany; how do these discussions in Austria remain distinct from those in Germany and why?

Please send 250-300 word abstracts by September 30th, 2012 to Tessa Wegener, tvw2@georgetown.edu.

Deadline: September 30, 2012
Please include with your abstract:
Name and Affiliation
Email address
Postal address
Telephone number
A/V requirements (if any; $10 handling fee with registration)

The 2013 NeMLA convention continues the Association's tradition of sharing innovative scholarship in an engaging and generative location. The 44th annual event will be held in historic Boston, Massachusetts, a city known for its national and maritime history, academic facilities and collections, vibrant art, theatre, and food scenes, and blend of architecture. The Convention, located centrally near Boston Commons and the Theatre District at the Hyatt
Regency, will include keynote and guest speakers, literary readings, film screenings, tours and workshops.

Interested participants may submit abstracts to more than one NeMLA session; however, panelists can only present one paper (panel or seminar). Convention participants may present a paper at a panel and also present at a creative session or participate in a roundtable. 
http://www.nemla.org/convention/2013/cfp.html