

Thinking Urban Space (Univ of Pennsylvania, 15 Feb 2008)

Kathryn Malczyk

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"Thinking Urban Space"

University of Pennsylvania

Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

Graduate Student Conference

Friday, February 15, 2008

Deadline: December 31, 2007

A fictional Metropolis for Fritz Lang. New York for Kafka's Karl Roßmann. Dresden for Ernst Ludwig Kirchner. From the fin de siècle to the Wende, urban spaces have played and continue to play a fundamental role in modern German literary and visual culture. This conference seeks to illuminate the alleys and shadows of the metonymic "city" in German society. How do we construct space in an urban landscape and, more specifically, how do we perceive it through, for example, literature, film, and photography? How have urban spaces formally affected various media, and reciprocally, how have various media affected the city? How exactly do we see (or sometimes even choose to ignore) the city? Or conversely, as Kafka's Roßmann observes, how does urban space perceive us?

We welcome submissions in the fields of German culture, literature, film, photography, architecture, art history, history, philosophy, or from scholars engaging with any of the following or other topics relating to urban space:

Urban vs. suburban or rural space

Past, present, and future of cities

Land and water

Mobility, transportation

Migration, immigration

Cultural, racial, or class conflict in the city

Threats of/to urban space

Construction, evolution, destruction of space

Effects of religion and ideologies

Urban sprawl
Eastern vs. Western spaces
Origins of the German city
The city in artistic movements
Gendered spaces; gender in the city
Characteristics of "German" space
Urban space under National Socialism
Public art, graffiti
City parks, concealment of the urban
Cosmopolitan culture
Spatial dimensions

Deadline for submission of abstracts (one page, in English):

December 31, 2007

Submit abstracts to: malczyk@sas.upenn.edu

Reference:

CFP: Thinking Urban Space (Univ of Pennsylvania, 15 Febr 08). In: ArtHist.net, Oct 15, 2007 (accessed Dec 15, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/29774>>.