

Programme and Selected Readings ZTMK's Featured Thinker Day 25th May 2012: Mieke Bal

Session 1) Traveling Concepts and Interdisciplinarity

Time: 10.30-12.00

Discussants: Dr. Férdia Stones-Davis; Charissa Granger, M.A.

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Regina Bendix

In this opening session we would like to discuss some of Mieke Bal's ideas which have either contributed to shaping her thinking throughout her intellectual career or proven pivotal in writings of hers on a variety of subjects. At the heart of this session will be Mieke Bal's concept of Cultural Analysis, which we will approach by reflecting on her notion of travelling concepts.

Text 1)

2002 Introduction. In: *Traveling Concepts in the Humanities: A Rough Guide*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press: p. 3-21.

Text 2)

2002 Tradition. In: *Traveling Concepts in the Humanities: A Rough Guide*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2002: p. 213-252.

Session 2) Narratology

Time: 13.00-14.30

Discussants: Prof. Dr. Matthias Freise; Urania Milevski, M.A.

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Birgit Abels

In this section we would like to discuss the narratology of Mieke Bal on the basis of "Book of Judges" and "The Rape of Narrative and the Narrative of Rape". We want to focus not only on specific terms like "focalization" and "voice" but also on narratology as critical, interdisciplinary theory and the various understandings of "narrative".

Text 1)

2006 The Rape of Narrative and the Narrative of Rape: Speech Acts and Body Language in Judges. In: *A Mieke Bal Reader*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 339-364.

Text 2)

1994 Telling Objects: A Narrative Perspective on Collecting. In: *The Cultures of Collecting*, edited by John Elsner and Roger Cardinal, 97-115. London: Reaktion Books.

Session 3) Artistic forms as media of critique and insight

Time: 15.00-16.30

Discussants: Christine Hämmerling, M.A.; Maria Schwertl, M.A.

Moderator: Eva-Maria van Straaten, M.A.

In this session we would like to explore Prof. Bal's work on media other than written texts and the ways in which such work can be productive in gaining theoretical and ethical insights in problems that we face that might not be so easily captured in texts. The texts and videos are in direct connection to the idea of traveling concepts and tradition, since they use the idea of traveling concepts to critically explore the possibility to work outside the academic tradition of text. They relate to the narratology session in that both texts and videos explore how the (absence or countering of) narrative in these videos can be productive.

Text 1)

2007 "Lost in Space, Lost in the Library". In: Sam Durrant and Catherine Lord (Eds.), *Essays in migratory aesthetic, cultural practices between migration and art-making*. Amsterdam & New York: Editions Rodopi B.V.: pp 23-36.

Text 2)

2006 LOOPS & GAPS: Video as Entrance into the Unknown. *Amsterdam International Electronic Journal for Cultural Narratology (AJCN)*, autumn 2006. Online Available at: http://cf.hum.uva.nl/narratology/a06_index.htm

Videos: Lost in Space, The Alcazar 2450, Caution, Road Movie, Rockefeller Boulevard.

Extra Readings:

For an overview of all publications and artworks visit Prof. Dr. Mieke Bal's website at <http://www.miekebal.org/>.