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Main Events – a Selection

International and Interdisciplinary Aspects of Scholarly Editing

15.2.–18.2.2012

The Swiss Literary Archives (SLA) was a partner of the 14th international symposium of the *Arbeitsgemeinschaft für germanistische Edition*, with a public discussion between Dirk von Petersdorff and Hans Magnus Enzensberger on the art of the edition, the freedoms that editors enjoy, and the dilemmas they face.

Sapperlot! Swiss Dialects

8.3.–25.8.2012

Developed jointly by the NL and the Phonogram Archive of the University of Zurich, *Sapperlot!* was devoted to the topic of Swiss dialects. Visitors were able to listen to some forty historical and present-day dialect recordings from all four language regions at thirteen sound stations. There was also a presentation of the four national dialect dictionaries, and an opportunity for visitors to record their own dialect. An extensive programme of events examined the topic in greater depth. At the NL, the Museum Night on 16 March became a dialect night, while on 26 April Radio DRS1 broadcast the programme *Schnabelweid* live from the NL. Exceptionally, the NL also opened its doors on 1 August for the exhibition, a library morning and readings with Achim Parterre.

Linked Data, Libraries and the Semantic Web

13.3.2012

Co-author Gordon Dunsire discussed in his Library Science Talk the work of the W3C Library Linked Data Incubator Group and its final report. He related it to recent developments in bibliographic metadata standards and records in the context of linked data, Resource Description Framework, and the Semantic Web.

Massimo Gezzi

In altre forme/En d'autres formes/In andere Formen

14.3.2012

An author's evening on the theme of friendship between different languages, arts and countries and centred around the writer Massimo Gezzi, this event was organised by the SLA. Gezzi himself and two translators, Mathilde Vischer and Jacqueline Aerne, gave a trilingual reading from his works, while the music of guitarist Roberto Zechini established a dialogue with the poems. The evening was chaired by Annetta Ganzoni, and was supported by the City of Bern Department of Culture and the Studenti Ticinesi a Berna (STIB).

Walter Jonas. Peintre et urbaniste visionnaire (‘Painter and visionary urban designer’)

22.4.–15.7.2012

The Centre Dürrenmatt Neuchâtel devoted a temporary exhibition to the multifaceted artist and thinker Walter Jonas (1910–1979). It featured portraits alongside designs for the urban environment in the form of drawings and architectural models. Exhibited for the first time in public, the *Buch einer Nacht* bore witness to a joint project and his links to Friedrich Dürrenmatt. Dürrenmatt commented of Jonas that it was “impossible to imagine my life without him”.



Hans Magnus Enzensberger and
Dirk von Petersdorff, 16.2.2012



Schnabelweid, presented by
Christine Hubacher, 26.4.2012

P-26: Legitime Vorbereitung des Widerstands oder Geheimarmee? (‘Legitimate preparation for resistance or secret army?’)

23.4.2012

In his book, Martin Matter depicts the “secret army” P-26, which was disbanded in 1990, as a resistance organisation. To mark World Book Day, the publishers hier+jetzt and the NL invited audiences to a discussion of the recently published work. Journalist Thomas Knellwolf chaired a debate between the author and some of the organisation’s leading figures of the period: Efreim Cattelan alias Rico, former head of P-26; Anton Keller, former National Councillor and member of the parliamentary investigation committee; and Richard Aschinger, former journalist at the federal parliament.



Efreim Cattelan, 23.4.2012

58 BC – 888 – 10 August 1792 Three key dates in Swiss history

13.6.2012

To mark the 10th anniversary of its foundation, *Collection Le savoir suisse* created a new series on the most important dates in the history of Switzerland. The first three volumes were presented at the NL at an event attended by their authors: *L’an -58: Les Helvètes. Archéologie d’un peuple celte*, by Gilbert Kaenel; *L’an 888: Le royaume de Bourgogne. Une puissance européenne au bord du Léman*, by François Demotz; *10 août 1792: Les Tuileries. L’été tragique des relations franco-suisse*, by Alain-Jacques Tornare. Olivier Meuwly and Bertil Galland led the discussion.

Verwunschene Orte: Raumfiktionen zwischen Paradies und Hölle (‘Enchanted places: fictional spaces between paradise and hell’)

28.6.2012

Since time immemorial, the poet’s words have been credited with the ability to magically create reality, or create magical realities. Language brings into being parallel worlds or counterworlds that are as much paradise as they are hell. Under the guidance of Andreas Mauz, Gertrud Leutenegger and Martin R. Dean discussed this phenomenon with Barbara Piatti and Irmgard Wirtz. The public event formed part of the fifth summer school on Swiss literature, which was devoted to the same topic.

Wörterfriedhöfe oder Enzyklopädien der Volkskultur? (‘Cemeteries for words or encyclopaedias of folk culture?’)

4.7.2012

The four national dialect dictionaries were the brainchild not of central government, but of linguists. Under the guidance of Christine Hubacher, their current editors-in-chief Franco Lurà (*Vocabolario dei dialetti della Svizzera italiana*), Anton Näf (*Glossaire des patois de la Suisse romande*), Hans-Peter Schifferle (*Schweizerisches Idiotikon*) and Carli Tomaschett (*Dicziunari Rumantsch Grischun*) came together to discuss their importance and their prospects in the digital age.



Franco Lurà, 4.7.2012

Rilke in Bern: 35th Conference of the Rilke Society

19.–23.9.2012

What was Rainer Maria Rilke’s relationship to Bern? Where did he live, whom did he meet, what did he write in the city? These questions were the central issues for the 35th Conference of the International Rilke Society, organised in association with the SLA, during which the SLA present-



Rilke-Kabinett, 20.9.–1.12.2012

ed to the public for the first time its facsimile and genetic edition of the manuscript for the “Berner Taschenbuch” of the *Aufzeichnungen des Malte Laurids Brigge*. There was also an issue of *Quarto*, the SLA magazine, devoted to Rilke. The small exhibition entitled *Wiederkehr unerhörter Blumen – Rilke-Kabinett* also addressed the topic of the conference. It featured some treasures from the Rilke archive as well as cashmere shawls from the Historical Museum of Bern that inspired Rilke to write three of his poems.

Reale und fiktive Reisen durch Raum und Zeit (‘Real and fictional journeys through space and time’) A discussion between E.Y. Meyer and Pirmin Meier

17.10.2012

Organised by the SLA, this event brought together two writers who are linked by more than just the similarity between their names. In their works, both contrast the cultural richness of the past with the mass culture of the present day. E.Y. Meyer and Pirmin Meier discussed the differences, and the common ground, in their writing and thought. The event was chaired by Corinna Jäger-Trees.

1st CCSA Colloquium

15.11.2012

What stories do poster collections tell? What are the motivations behind them? How are they constructed, how have they been extended? These questions were discussed by René Gronert, head of the German Poster Museum in the Museum Folkwang, Essen, and Jean-Charles Giroud, former director and previously curator of the poster collection at the Bibliothèque de Genève, at the 1st CCSA Colloquium. The CCSA (*Catalogue collectif suisse des affiches*) catalogues the holdings of Switzerland’s largest poster collections and brings them together, virtually, into a single Swiss poster collection.

Mariella Mehr: Luftwurzeln – sangue vagabondo

21.11.2012

The bilingual evening to mark the 65th birthday of Mariella Mehr looked at the “Italian” in her work, her language for the unfamiliar, issues of translation and dissemination in another language area. Chaired by Annetta Ganzoni and Christa Baumberger, the event featured readings and discussions with the author and Anna Ruchat, who has translated Mehr’s work into Italian.

Erinnern und Erfinden: Urs Faes und Anna Mitgutsch im Gespräch (‘Remembering and inventing: a discussion between Urs Faes and Anna Mitgutsch’)

5.12.2012

The relationship between fiction and history runs like a thread through Urs Faes’s work. For some years he has corresponded regularly with Anna Mitgutsch, in an epistolary relationship based on a shared preoccupation with the temporality of memories. In a discussion moderated by Irmgard Wirtz, the Austrian author and the Swiss writer debated their common concern.