

**BETWEEN THE NATIONAL AND THE TRANSNATIONAL, 1945-1980:
Masculinities in British and American Literature
between World War II and Thatcher/Reagan**



The First of Three International Workshops:
TU Dresden, Germany, 9-11/06/2010



Organizers:

Prof. Dr. Stefan Horlacher (TU Dresden), Prof. Kevin Floyd (Kent State University)

CALL FOR PAPERS

As R.W. Connell and James Messerschmidt have proposed, masculinities have to be studied at a number of different analytic levels simultaneously, ranging from the most location-oriented and culturally specific, to the national, to the transnational. This workshop will encourage scholarly movement in a direction that both builds on recent work in the field of masculinity studies and moves past it, toward more comparative kinds of analysis.

In Britain and the US the proliferation of differentiated masculinities becomes increasingly evident during the postwar period for specifically national and transnational reasons. These include global waves of decolonization, patterns of migration, the emergence of 'new' subaltern subjects demanding social, cultural, and political recognition, and conservative reactions against these developments.

What lines of interchange and influence in the cultural imagining of masculinity can be traced between the US and UK during this period? How do new, postwar forms of masculine identity in Britain and the U.S. reconstruct imagined national pasts in ways which retain force when

global economic and military hegemony appears to have passed, finally, from Britain to the US?

How should we understand relations between hegemonic and counterhegemonic masculinities in such a context – and especially the ways in which these relations operate both similarly and differently in these two countries?

This workshop is designed to facilitate a collective scholarly conversation about the ways in which masculinities in the UK and the US converge as well as diverge. How to understand culturally differentiated masculinities not simply as incommensurate with each other, but also as operating in relation to each other?

We seek papers that examine, within a transatlantic framework, literary representations of masculinity in the U.S. and/or the U.K. from the post-World War II period to the period immediately preceding the era of Thatcher and Reagan. We especially encourage literary analyses that consider or propose connections between US and UK masculinities, and that examine those masculinities at simultaneously national and transnational levels.

Please send an abstract of no more than 500 words by **December 31st 2009** to **both** Prof. Dr. Stefan Horlacher (stefan.horlacher@mailbox.tu-dresden.de) and Prof. Kevin Floyd (kfloyd@kent.edu).

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