TRANSCENDENTALIST INTERSECTIONS:

LITERATURE, PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION

July 26 – 29, 2018

Sponsored by the Anglistische Seminar and the Heidelberg Center for American Studies at the University of Heidelberg, the Margaret Fuller Society, and the Ralph Waldo Emerson Society

Ruprecht-Karls-Universität
Heidelberg, est. 1386
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Thursday, July 26, 2018

Please visit the conference desk (HCA entrance, 2:30-3:45) for registration confirmation, folder, and badge (additional desk hours to be announced)

3:45-4:00

Welcome from the HCA and the Fuller and Emerson Societies

4:00-5:30

**Who Figures in Transcendentalism?** (Oculus)
Monika Elbert, Moderator

- Charlene Avallone, "Emerson Read George Sand. And So Should You!"
- Lance Newman, "The Repurposed Transcendental Landscapes of The Life, History, and Travels of Kahgagegahbowh (George Copway)"
- David Robinson, "Fuller, Fourier, and the Coming Democracy"

**Protestant Heritage/Religious Radicalism** (Stucco)
Jan Stievermann, Moderator

- Kenyon Gradert, "From Cromwell to Parker"
- Marina Kizima, "Margaret Fuller: A Publicistic Dialogue with the Puritan Heritage"
- Benjamin Park, "Theodore Parker, Joseph Smith, and the Antinomian Challenge to American Democracy"

6:00-7:30 (HCA)

**Laura Dassow Walls**, "The Sphinx at the Crossroads: Transcendentalism Meets the Anthropocene"

Reception
Friday, July 27, 2018

9:00-10:30

Revisioning the Political (Oculus)
Thomas Constantinesco, Moderator

- Daniel S. Malachuk, "Brownson, Public Religion, and Post-Secular Transcendentalism"
- Russell Sbriglia, "Not Only as Subject, but also as Citizen: Margaret Fuller and the 'New Manifestation' of (Concrete) Universality"
- Johannes Voelz, "Turns of Envy: Emerson and Tocqueville on the Paradox of a Democratic Passion"

Aesthetics (Stucco)
Sean Meehan, Moderator

- Prentiss Clark, "'More Day to Dawn': Aesthetic Experience and the Possibility of Ethics"
- Tim Sommer, "Between Autonomy and Heteronomy: Romanticism, Transcendentalism, and the Status of the Literary"

10:30-11:00 Coffee

11:00-12:30

Transcendental Feminisms (Oculus)
Todd Richardson, Moderator

- Noelle Baker, "'Learn How to Be Victorious': Transatlantic Pathways to Feminism
- Phyllis Cole, "Fuller, New Women, and the Paris Socialists"
- Sonia Di Loreto, "'A Fair Sign of the Times': Networks of Transcendentalism, Feminism, and Reform in the People's Journal"
Spiritualities (Stucco)
Daniela Daniele, Moderator

- Birgit Capelle, "Philosophical Implications of Silence in American Transcendentalism, Japanese Zen Buddhism, and Chinese Taoist Thought"
- Colette Walker, "Tasting Transcendence: A Comparative Study of the Mystical Aesthetics of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Abhinavagupta"
- Robert Shelton, "The Zoar Community and the Transcendental Spirit of Reform in Ohio"

12:30-2:00 Lunch

Margaret Fuller Society open meeting (Oculus)

2:00-3:30

Transcendental Forms (Oculus)
Brigitte Bailey, Moderator

- Peter Balaam, "The Other Shoving Boy: Emerson's Reverence for Form"
- Mollie Barnes, "'To Mold in Clay and Carve in Stone': Temporality and Literary Form in Fuller's Italian Dispatches"
- Kaitlin Mondello, "Re-visioning Transcendental Language: Ralph Waldo Emerson's and Emily Dickinson's Scientific Aesthetics"

Ethics (Stucco)
Prentiss Clark, Moderator

- Dennis Sölch, "Civil Disobedience or Symbolic Action—A Case for Thoreau's Stoicism"
- Tae Sung, "'The Gift, To Be True': A Non-Economic Theory of Gifts in Ralph Waldo Emerson"
Saturday, July 28, 2018

3:30-4:00 Coffee

4:00-5:30

Optative Emerson: Temporality, Politics, Philosophy (Oculus)
Daniel S. Malachuk, Moderator

- Thomas Constantinesco, "Emerson and the Spirit of Time"
- Danielle Follett, "Emerson's Temporalities: The Eternal Present vs. the Not Yet Present"
- Michael Jonik, "'The Earth Burns': Hegel's Influence on Emerson's Later Philosophy of Nature"

Up against Limit: Temporality, Finitude, Failure (Stucco)
Margit Peterfy, Moderator

- Walter Gruüzweig, "All Our Hits Are Accidents: Ralph Waldo Emerson's Serendipitous Epistemology"
- David Heckerl, "A Philosophical or Religious Perfectionism? Cavell, Emerson, Kierkegaard"

6:00-7:30 (Alte Aula)

Russell Goodman "Emerson's Philosophical Style"

9:00-10:30

Ontologies (Oculus)
David Greenham, Moderator

- Herwig Friedl, "A Sense of Being – The Senses of Being: Emerson's Ontology"
- Dieter Schulz, "Transcendentalism and Metaphysics"
- Joseph Urbas, "Poesis and Metaphysics: Emerson's Bipolar Philosophy of Art"
Translation and World Literature (Stucco)

Charlene Avallone, Moderator

- Kohei Furuya, "Fuller's Translation of Eckermann's Conversations with Goethe: German Translation Theories and the Conception of Feminist World Literature"
- Elvira Osipova, "Ralph Waldo Emerson as Viewed from Russia"
- Adrienne Perry, "Thinking Fuller: The Ethics of Transcendental Translation"

10:30-11:00 Coffee

11:00-12:30

Interconnected Selfhood (Oculus)
Leslie Eckel, Moderator

- Christina Katopodis, "Pulse & Polarity: The Vibrational Epistemology of Fuller and Emerson"
- Bonnie O'Neill, "Feeling Impersonally: Universal Law and the Power of Affect"
- Valeria Tsygankova, "Inanimate Constituencies: The Intertwining of Person and Thing in Emersonian Selfhood"

Thinking Religion (Stucco)
Peter Balaam, Moderator

- Tyler Gardner, "Is Walden a Religious Book?"
- Günter Leypoldt, "Don't let's be praying pompisly about our "sacred calling": Vocation and Disenchantment in Transcendentalist Authorship"

12:30-2:00 Lunch

Ralph Waldo Emerson Society open meeting (Oculus)

2:00-3:30

Transcendentalist Histories: Questions of Failure, Progress, and Reception (Oculus)
Bonnie O'Neill, Moderator

- Leslie Eckel, "Transcendentalism's Useful Failures"
- Serge Grigoriev, "Emerson's "Optimism" and History"
- Paul Kerry, "George Bancroft as an American Transcendentalist — A Reassessment"
Religious Trajectories (Stucco)
Phyllis Cole, Moderator

Kate Culkin, "She Cherished the Old Religion, Ellen Tucker Emerson, Unitarianism, and a Father-Daughter Bond"
Monika Elbert, "The Seeress of Prevorst as Margaret Fuller’s Field Guide to the Frontier (in Summer on the Lakes)"
Devin Zuber, "Emerson, Swedenborg, and the Postsecular"

3:30-4:00 Coffee

4:00-5:30

Education (Oculus)
Dietmar Schloss, Moderator

Sean Meehan, "Transdisciplinary Transcendentalism: Late Emerson and the Rhetoric of Liberal Education"
Wes Mott, "A ‘life bridge’ to ‘moral and intellectual perfection’: Marion Talbot and Transcendental Education Reform"
Clemens Spahr, "The Transcendentalist as Public Intellectual: Institutions, Professionalism, and Reform in the Age of American Romanticism"

Transcendentalist Archives and Afterlives (Stucco)
Mollie Barnes, Moderator

Mario Bannoni, "Three New Fuller Letters Found in Italy Reveal the Role of Women in the Struggle for Freedom"
Daniela Daniele, "Elevating Littleness: Bronson Alcott’s Poetic Self-Portraits and Their Neglected Legacy in Louisa May’s Semi-Autobiographical Fiction"
Sarah Wider, "The Children of Transcendentalism: Caroline Sturgis's Drawings and Stories"

6:00-7:30 (HCA)

Jan Stievermann, “Emerson and the Invention of Religion(s) in the Nineteenth Century”
SUNDAY, JULY 29

9:00-10:30

Print Cultures and Literary Networks (Oculus)
Noelle Baker, Moderator

- Brigitte Bailey, "Fuller, The Dial, The Tribune, and Periodical Print Culture"
- Denise Kohn, "Fuller's Influence on the Politics of Suffrage, Marriage, and Free Love in The Revolution"

Theories of Language and Poetics: Emerson and Thoreau (Stucco)
Joseph Urbas, Moderator

- David Greenham, "Emerson's Theory of Language: Correspondence, Symbolism, Metaphor"
- Bill Rossi, "Thoreau's 'Poet,' Thoreau's 'Experience'"

10:30-11:00

Intersections: Sharing Our Reflections (Stucco)
Daniel S. Malachuk, Moderator

A tour of the Altstadt may follow (details to come)