



Nordamerikastudienprogramm
Institut für Anglistik, Amerikanistik und Keltologie



Events | Veranstaltungen
Summer Term 2012

Prof. Dr. Sabine Sielke
North American Studies Program

"Nostalgia for New York"

Thursday • 28 June 2012 • 6:15-7:00 pm

Festsaal • University of Bonn • Regina-Pacis-Weg 3 • 53113 Bonn

In her paper, Sabine Sielke maps New York City as an overexposed space that continues to invite projections of the very ideals that America embodies. The sense of the city as a dense intercultural site of creative energy and collaboration, on the one hand, and as an arena of fierce cultural clashes and brutal economic competition, on the other, triggers a continuous 'urban renewal' of America as an unfinished – and ultimately nostalgic – enterprise.

The paper is one of the opening lectures of the conference "Intercultural Sites in the Global City" (28-30 June 2012) which explores how the city's cultural spaces are created by cultural practices and governed by intercultural encounters and exchanges with other traditions, languages and rituals. The organizer proposes that "cities are generating hybrid forms which, significantly, do not dispense with culturally differentiated national indicators but combine them in a seemingly arbitrary fashion. These intercultural sites of the global city have to be defined anew. They bear witness to experiences of hybridization in which 'one's own' cease to be taken for granted because it is no longer demarcated from the other."

SABINE SIELKE is Chair of North American Literature and Culture and Director of the North American Studies Program and the German-Canadian Centre at the University of Bonn. Her publications include *Reading Rape* (2002) and *Fashioning the Female Subject* (1997), the series *Transcription*, the (co-)editions *Verschleierungstaktiken* (2011), *Orient and Orientalisms in US-American Poetry and Poetics* (2009), *The Body as Interface* (2007), *Der 11. September 2001* (2002), and *Engendering Manhood* (1998) as well as essays on poetry and poetics, (post-)modern literature and culture, literary and cultural theory, gender and African American studies, popular culture, and the interfaces of cultural studies and the sciences.