

CONFERENCE:
MUSEUM NARRATIVES



To be held at the
Brunauer Zentrum, Salzburg,
5-8 November 2009

Organised by
Sabine Coelsch-Foisner, Wolfgang Görtschacher, Sarah Herbe

CALL FOR PAPERS

Museums are in various ways connected with narratives: they have prompted the literary imagination and feature in a wide range of texts, such as David Lodge's *The British Museum is Falling Down*, A.S. Byatt's "Morpho Eugenia", and Evelyn Grillo's *Der Sammler*. Writers and literary texts have been 'developed' in museums or museum-type venues, and museums themselves have experimented with spatial arrangements resembling narrative structures.

Making sense of material data and telling stories about them is one of the basic functions of the public museum, which emerged in the 18th century out of private collections, and which has become ever more experimental in the light of new technologies and the postmodern foregrounding of experience, activity, and process.

The aim of this conference is to exploit the various connections between narratives and the materiality and mediality of the museum. We invite papers dealing with

- museums dedicated to literary texts, authors, or figures in literature
- narratives dealing with, or prompted by, museums, collections, and museum-type venues
- texts and media employed in museums, weaving exhibits into meaningful narratives
- case studies exploring particular spatial or medial strategies of museal presentation from a narratological perspective.

Our interest is mainly in museums and museum-type venues, such as heritage sites, in Anglophone countries, and we would particularly like to encourage those actively involved in museography and museology to contribute papers and engage in what we hope to be a rewarding debate about the 'literariness' of museums.

Papers may not exceed 30 minutes delivery time and will be followed by 15 minutes of discussion. Two papers will be given in one session of 90 minutes in all. The language of papers and discussions is English. This conference also includes a forum for PhD students working in this area and a teachers' forum. The latter will be announced separately.

If you are interested in this conference and wish to offer a paper or take part as a general participant, please contact **by 31 March, 2009** (adding an abstract of 350 words describing your project and bearing your name and institutional affiliation):

Professor Sabine Coelsch-Foisner, University of Salzburg, Department of English,
Akademiestraße 24, 5020 Salzburg, Austria; Tel.: +43-662-8044-4422,

Fax: +43-662-8044-167; E-Mail: sabine.coelsch-foisner@sbg.ac.at

More information on Salzburg Annual Conferences on Literature and Culture and on the IRCM at:
<http://www.uni-salzburg.at/ang/conferences> and <http://www.uni-salzburg.at/metamorph>