

ENGLISCHE ABSTRACTS**MIREK NĚMEC: Spatial concepts in the short story *Begegnung auf dem Riesengebirge* by Erwin Guido Kolbenheyer**

This paper explores spatial concepts developed by the author Erwin Guido Kolbenheyer in his short story *Begegnung auf dem Riesengebirge* (1928). It is shown that the literary text not only has an aesthetic quality but also contains a disturbing political statement. This becomes apparent when the various spatial representations are analysed. The author's spatial arrangements and their foundations are presented and put in the context of the inter-war period. Attention is drawn to the continuity of the "großdeutsche" idea of Central Europe. The article is based on Henri Lefebvre's theoretical considerations on space.

LUKÁŠ NOVOTNÝ: Border and its influence on regional identity and regional development in the German-Czech border area

The article deals with the influence of the border on the development in the German-Czech border areas, using data from a survey which was conducted in the second half of 2017 amongst mayors of selected Czech communities in the Euroregions of the Bohemian Forest/ Bavarian Forest/ Mühlviertel, and Neißة. The goal of the survey was to find out how mayors organize cross-border cooperation, how they assess the border situation and the positive and negative issues they see in today's Europeanization of cross-border cooperation. For it is the mayors who establish and keep the contacts, who are informed about current issues and cope with them. The survey is accompanied by the theory of regional development, specifically the development within national states. The contribution is based on the theory of "learning regions", whose authors have responded to changing conditions for the development of regions in the past 20 years.

VÁCLAV SMYČKA: Ruins (of disappeared German places) as points of interest and ghost houses

The article deals with the significance of the remains of former German towns in the Czech Republic in contemporary Czech popular culture. It outlines the growing interest in ruins as well as the transformation of their semantics in the culture of remembrance. The issue of ruins as places of memory is grasped from a theoretical perspective and interpreted in the context of the aesthetics

of the ruin. Finally, the essay focuses on the detective series *Vzteklina* (rabies), an example that illustrates the function of ruins in contemporary representations of eviction. The aim of the essay is to point out the ambivalence in the process of collective remembrance and forgetting.

LADISLAV FUTTERA: „...ein gewisser Rübezahl durchs Riesengebirge zu geistern hatte“ – Rübezahl as a concept of identity and remembrance

The expulsion of the Germans from the Riesengebirge effected the tradition of the Rübezahl legend. In the Czech context the tradition of the pre-war period lived on, in which Rübezahl served as a symbol of the region, on the one hand strengthening the regional identity, on the other hand used as a generally understandable brand. Therefore some monuments of German-Bohemian culture could be incorporated into the Czech context. It was not until the 1970s, under the influence of mass media, that the prototypical representation of Rübezahl became a fairy tale hero. The image of the mountain ghost in the remembrance of expellees tended to be stereotyped, too, and to use the ancient, legendary tradition of the moody demon. Both identity-forming stereotypes conflicted with each other, which was gradually overcome only after the “Wende”. Rübezahl plays a central role in tourist marketing, and the broad range of representational possibilities leads to varied amalgamations.

SANDRA KREISSLOVÁ/ JANA NOSKOVÁ: Remembered or forgotten? Dealing with the expulsion of Germans in Chomutov (Komotau) and Brno (Brno)

The article deals with the issue of forced eviction of the German-speaking population in two cities – in Chomutov (Komotau) and Brno (Brünn). The authors analyse the negotiation of the problematic/conflicted history in the two selected cities after 1989 within the framework of exploration of a culture of remembrance as a collective term for the entirety of the non-scientific dealing with history in communities. The strategies of different actors in these cities and towns are examined, as well as narratives that are transported in official publications and at official events. By comparing Komotau and Brünn, the article shows parallels and differences in dealing with this topic and thus contributes to a better understanding of remembrance culture.

JAN BUDŇÁK: Repressed continuity. Corporate identities in textile companies in Brno at the transition to the communist era

The article discusses the issue of corporative memory as it is formed in in-house publications from 1949 to 1951, providing the foundation for a new corporate identity of the national textile companies. The focus lies on the in-house workers' and trade union magazines *Naše pětiletka* (Our five-year plan) of the Vlnap-group and *Mosilana píše* (Mosilana writes) of the Mosilana-group. The study poses the question how these magazines relate to their corporate past or to the past of the Czechoslovakian textile industry in general. Despite the usage of corporate memory according to the communist ideology dominating from 1949, the debate about which kind of critical approach would be desirable in the new corporations reveals that there are nonconformist continuities with the capitalist era. However, these end at the latest during the year 1951.

ELISABETH FENDL: The *Becherplatz* in Karlovy Vary (Karlsbad) as a “historical” place

The contribution is dedicated to the touristic area *Becherplatz*, which is in existence in Karlovy Vary (Karlsbad) since 2012 and was built in the former Becherbitter (Becherovka) factory buildings. It houses shops, a café and a restaurant as well as the Jan Becher Museum and museum shop. In marketing this tourist destination, promoters include historical elements without providing the necessary contextualization. Known topoi are utilized to convey historicity, but the staging becomes inconsistent.

MARTIN MAURACH: Postcards from Troppau before 1945, looked at in Opava in 2018

Using the example of two exhibition catalogues of historical postcards from Troppau (Opava) before 1945, the article examines the question of how regional continuities can be represented in these two media. The use of German as well as Czech place names both on the cards themselves and in the catalogue, proves to be an indicator of ruptures in identity whose adequate representation does not seem trivial. Postcards as a medium should transport a local or national identity across times and places; they have to connect language and image, which are susceptible to ruptures in different ways. The article tries to approach the issue with the help of H. U. Gumbrecht's concept of an extended chronotope. At best, however, this proves to be a partial gain over the traditional historical method.

MISCELLANEA AUSTENSIA

RENATA CORNEJO: *Warum das Kind in der Polenta kocht*. – Aglaja Veteranyi's "uncanny" home(s)

Aglaja Veteranyi's novel *Warum das Kind in der Polenta kocht* (1999) focuses on the failed integration of the first-person narrator, a circus nomad, who tries to gain a foothold as an artist in the materially secure environment of her new homeland, Switzerland. The article aims to investigate the role of emotions in the design of identity and home, and asks to what extent the new, promising homeland for the protagonist gradually becomes "unheimlich". At the same time, traces of inner insecurity and anxiety as well as family violence are explored, which are gradually brought up by exposing the repressed childhood memories of the first-person narrator. As a result, the at first positively perceived counterpart to Switzerland – the image of the 'Romanian circus home' – turns out to be an "unheimliches"/uncanny home, too.

VERONIKA JIČÍNSKÁ: Encounter with the "Czech spirit" on the example of Březina. Rudolf Pannwitz's Studies on Czech Culture

The work of the poet, philosopher, and cultural critic Rudolf Pannwitz nowadays is rarely studied. He connects the critique of Modernity in the Nietzschean sense, as critique of ideology in view of the cultural crisis in Europe shortly before and during the First World War, with the phenomenological critique of mind, by seeking the spirit of nations, especially Slavs or Czechs, beyond contemporary national discourses. Pannwitz tried to emerge from the "sterile" opposition Czechs vs. Germans, and followed a vision of the Czechs' importance in European culture as a cultural synthesis; he believed in "a deep connection between German and Czech destiny" (PANNWITZ 1917: 36). Pannwitz's works – especially *Die Krisis der europaischen Kultur* (1917) and *Der Geist der Tschechen* (1919) – and their interpretation are contextualised in this essay from a germano-bohemian and cultural studies perspective.

KARIN S. WOZONIG: Biography as a follower of theories. A "wild" genre in literary studies

The "hybrid" genre of biography, located and oscillating between literature and social science, is often criticized for its lack of theory. The fact that the genre of biography finds its readers without poetics, is still held against it by German

literary studies. Recent efforts to both appreciate and extend the externalised theoretical reflection and to track down and systematize the genre-theoretical concept contained in biographical works, are pursued under the sign of the elimination of theoretical deficiencies. The article analyses the connection of biographical practice with subject theories and asks how, from the perspective of literary studies, concepts of subjectivity and individualism affect the structures of biographical representations and to what extent biographies contribute to consolidation or subversion of “authentic” and “constructed” individuality of groups and societies.