



THE FRANKE INSTITUTE
FOR THE HUMANITIES

Co-sponsored by The University of Chicago Center in Paris, the Franke Institute for the Humanities, the Departments of Comparative Literature, and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

Formalism / Idealism: Comparative Literary History, 1860-1960



an international colloquium at the
University of Chicago, Center in Paris,
6 rue Thomas Mann, Paris 13ème
April 7 and 8, 2015 at 11:30 AM

Tuesday 7 April 2015

Welcoming remarks: Paul Cheney (History, University of Chicago, Academic Director of the University of Chicago Center in Paris)

Session I: Paradigms of Comparison

Chair: Haun Saussy (Comparative Literature, University of Chicago)

11:40-12:20 Michael Silk (King's College, London), "Art, Life, and Comparison: Nietzsche and Matthew Arnold"

12:20-1:00 Boris Maslov (Comparative Literature, University of Chicago)
"Comparative Literature and Universal History"

1:00-1:40 Lunch for participants

Session II: Reflecting on Literary Form in the Late 19th Century Paris

Chair: Arnaud Coulombel (University of Chicago Center in Paris)

1:40-2:20 Haun Saussy (Comparative Literature, University of Chicago), "La conversion de Brunetière. Du fait divers à l'exemple."

2:20-3:00 Paolo Tortonese (Université Sorbonne nouvelle – Paris 3), "Zola, experimentation and verisimilitude"

3:00-4:40 Break

Session III: Literary Hermeneutics in German Idealism

Chair: Sandra Janssen (University of Geneva)

4:40-5:20 Carlos Spoerhase (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin), "Escaping the hermeneutic circle: Dilthey's 'idealer Gehalt' and his idea of the literary draft"

5:20-6:00 Julia Wildberger (American University of Paris), " 'To understand each phenomenon as it intended itself': Hermann Fraenkel as a Historian of Mentalities"

Wednesday 8 April 2015

Session IV: Theorizing Literary Kinds

Chair: Olga Solovieva (Social Thought, University of Chicago)

11:40-12:20 Serge Zenkine (Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow), "Mimetic Classes, Dynamic Evolution, and the Theory of Genre"

12:20-1:00 Céline Trautmann-Waller (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3), "André Jolles: from antique aesthetics to literary comparison, or morphology as a special kind of formalism"

1:00-1:40 Lunch for participants

Session V: What Was to Be Done with the Novel in the mid-20th Century

Chair: Boris Maslov (Comparative Literature, University of Chicago)

1:40-2:20 Olga Solovieva (Social Thought, University of Chicago), "Form and Formlessness in Thomas Mann's 'Goethe and Tolstoy'."

2:20-3:00 Sandra Janssen (University of Geneva), "Idealism as Formalism? How Extremes Meet in Hermann Broch's *The Death of Virgil*"

3:00-4:20 Break

Session VI: The Rise of Literary Theory in Eastern Europe

Chair: Carlos Spoerhase (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin)

4:20-5:00 Joe Feinberg (Philosophy Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague), "Structure as Process: Bedřich Václavěk's Theory of Folklorization"

5:00-5:40 Alexander Dmitriev (National Research University, Higher School of Economics, Moscow), "Literary History as\or Literary Evolution: René Wellek in Prague"

6:40-6:20 Jessica Merrill (Stanford University), "From the Language of Poetry to Poetic Language: The Emergence of a Concept in Early Russian Formalism"