

DACH VICTORIANISTS: AN ONLINE WORKSHOP

Friday, 3 December 2021, 1–7 pm (via Zoom)

Organisers: Dr Ariane de Waal and Dr Sandra Dinter

While there are numerous associations for Victorian studies around the globe, scholars in the “D-A-CH” region still lack a platform to connect with fellow Victorianists and discuss current developments in the field. This leads to the paradoxical situation that networking among close Victorianist neighbours based in German-speaking institutions typically takes place at the distance of travel to the UK or intercontinental flights to the US. While productive collaborations emerge from these transnational connections, the specific context and conventions of the German-speaking university system put DACH Victorianists in a position that differs markedly from that of international colleagues. Whereas scholars in Anglophone countries often pursue Victorian studies throughout their careers, researchers in Austria, Germany, and Switzerland are required to attain broad academic profiles that encompass several literary periods and genres. The result is that doctoral researchers must join one of the associations abroad if they want to present work-in-progress and leave behind Victorian studies if they want to continue with a *Habilitation*. Many postdocs, in turn, struggle to gain solid footing when entering Victorian studies after completing a PhD in a different field.

This online workshop brings together scholars based in Austria, Germany, and Switzerland whose research and teaching focus on Victorian literature and culture. It opens a forum for academics of all career stages to present and discuss research projects and methodologies. Along with gaining insight into current PhD and postdoc projects, the workshop will provide an opportunity to learn more about third-party funded projects that DACH Victorianists are working on. The event encompasses three panels with short flashlight presentations and discussion rounds and involves opportunities for informal socialising.

If our first workshop proves demand for further exchange, we hope to turn this initial gathering into an annual event.

If you would like to participate in the first DACH Victorianists workshop on 3 December 2021, please send a brief email to both organisers by 15 November 2021:

Ariane de Waal: ariane.de-waal@anglistik.uni-halle.de

Sandra Dinter: sandra.dinter@fau.de

We will send out a link for the Zoom meeting one week in advance.

Should you be unable to attend the workshop but would nevertheless like to take part in future networking activities among DACH Victorianists, do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We are planning to set up a mailing list for future announcements of Victorian interest.

Tentative Programme

1–1.30 pm	Welcome and Introduction of DACH Victorianists
1.30–3.00 pm	<hr/> Panel I: Research Projects <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Barbara Straumann (Zürich) & Sandra Mayer (Wien), “Celebrity in the Long Nineteenth Century”• Nadine Böhm-Schnitker (Konstanz), “Writing, Presenting and Publishing ‘Senses and Sensations: Towards an Aesthetics of the Victorian Novel’”• Franziska Quabeck (Münster), “Literature as Equity in British Cultural History”• Ursula Kluwick (Bern), “Victorian Blue Humanities”• Anne-Julia Zwierlein (Regensburg), “Lecturing Females: Oral Performances, Gender and Sensationalism in Metropolitan Lecturing Institutions and Mass Print Culture, 1860–1910 ” <hr/>
3.00–3.30 pm	Coffee Break
3.30–4.45 pm	<hr/> Panel II: PhD & Postdoc Projects <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anja Hartl (Konstanz), “Textures of Shame in Victorian Fiction”• Felipe Espinoza Garrido (Münster), “Imperial Sensations: Empire and Affect in Popular Women’s Writing, c. 1840–1890”• Jennifer Leetsch (Bonn), “Nineteenth-Century Black Ecologies: Writing the Self, Writing the World”• Olivia Biber (Bern), “Gender Relations in the Victorian Novel: The Domestic, the Economic, and the Material” <hr/>
4.45–5.15 pm	Coffee Break
5.15–6.30 pm	<hr/> Panel III: PhD & Postdoc Projects <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Martina Allen (Frankfurt), “Faces of Opium: The Story of the Rise of the Modern Drug Discourse through Victorian Literature”• Sebastian Graef (Regensburg), “Catholic Motifs in Late-Victorian British Queer Fiction”• Stefanie John (Braunschweig), “Textile Objects in British Literature at the Fin de Siècle: Decorative Materialities”• Ronja Holzinger (Erlangen), “‘Romancing Shopping’: Constructing the Female Shopper in (Gendered) Narratives on Shopping 1880s–1910” <hr/>
6.30–7.00 pm	Exchange of Ideas for Future Events and Networking Options
After 7.00 pm	Informal Socialising on Wonder.me