

Summer Term 2008

POETRY INTERMEDIAL

At least since the end of the 18th century the term poetry was considered systematically ambiguous and in its specific meaning as perceived in the field of literary studies, i.e. poetry in the sense of lyric poetry as opposed to prose, was replaced by other literary scientific terms. Poetry metaphorically speaking transcends the borders of the lyric genre. This wide use of the term poetry has been adopted into everyday's language. This can be seen when using the terms poetic picture or visual poetry when talking about painting, photography or film or using the term poetry of architecture when referring to architectural works. On the other hand, poetry outshines the other arts as it can be seen as an aesthetical form of expression for a special kind of experience of reality and it therefore – theoretically – can be used to experience any subject you like. Phenomena and terms like *Poetry of the Simple Life*, *Poetry of Trash* or *Poetry of the Diverse* exemplify this. These occurrences of the poetical continue the original and general meaning of poetry as the making of the not yet existing and stand in opposition to the special meaning of poetry as lyric. Therefore the term of poetry not only plays a special role in literature, but also in the other arts and aesthetical forms of life. The link between the different meanings of the poetic lies in the sensing expression and the special aesthetical experience. The lecture series will look at the theoretical and historical aspects of the term poetry in European literatures and cultures and also at several forms of the poetical and the usage of the term poetry in other arts and aesthetical forms of life. There are lectures planned from different philological studies, e.g. the Romanist, Russian, Polish, Czech and Slovakian studies as well as from philosophy and architecture. The lecture series will open on Friday, May 16th 2008, with a lecture held by Prof. Dr. Aage A. Hansen-Löve on the topic of "Quod erat illustrandum... or: Can Literature be Illustrated?". During the course of the lecture series an exhibition on visual poetry in the first half of the 20th century can be viewed in the Gallery of the Slavistic department.