

Friedrich Balke (Weimar)
Robert Buch (University of Pittsburgh)
Luca Di Blasi (ICI Berlin)
Karen Feldman (Berkeley)
Sara Fortuna (Università Guglielmo Marconi/ICI Berlin)
Marco Formisano (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Gunter Gebauer (Freie Universität Berlin)
Manuele Gagnolati (University of Oxford)
Christoph Holzhey (ICI Berlin)
Fatima Naqvi (Rutgers)
Wolfgang Palaver (Universität Innsbruck)
Hania Siebenpfeiffer (Universität Greifswald)
Jobst Welge (Freie Universität Berlin)

14-15 April 2011,
Stanford University, USA

6 May 2011,
University of Cambridge, St John's College, UK

10-11 June 2011,
ICI Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry, Germany
Co-coordinated by Manuele Gagnolati and
Christoph Holzhey

1-3 September 2011,
Espaço Cultural É Realizações, São Paulo, Brazil

14 October 2011,
Yale University, USA

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There is no 'authentic' or spontaneous desire, but only the imitation of other people's desires: desire is always mediated by the desire of the various models that the individual, more or less consciously, chooses. René Girard's "mimetic theory", which has been acknowledged as a break-through contribution to 20th-century critical thinking, was first developed in *Mensonge romantique et vérité romanesque* (Engl. Trans. *Deceit, Desire and the Novel*, 1965). 2011 marks the 50th anniversary of its publication and provides the occasion for a series of colloquia engaging scholars with theoretical approaches to literature in a discussion of mimetic theory and its contemporary and future uses in literary studies, including film and media studies. Participants will reflect upon *Deceit, Desire and the Novel* and consider its possible applications for their current and future work, as well as propose critiques, amplifications, or new perspectives on the main tenets in that book in particular, but also in Girard's other works on literature. The series of colloquia (www.deceitdesireandthenovel.org) is coordinated by Pierpaolo Antonello (Cambridge) and Heather Webb (Ohio State) and sponsored by Imitatio (www.imitatio.org).

INTERNATIONAL
COLLOQUIUM

DECEIT
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DESIRE

MIMETIC THEORY AND
LITERARY STUDIES
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ici KULTURLABOR
BERLIN INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL INQUIRY

10-11
JUNE

FRIDAY, 10 JUNE

9:45 Welcome
(Antonello, Gragnolati, Holzhey, Webb)

Session 1

Chair: Pier Paolo Antonello (Cambridge University)

10:00 Wolfgang Palaver (Theology, Universität Innsbruck):
"The Mystic-Spiritual Heart of René Girard's Book Deceit, Desire, and the Novel"

10:45 Karen Feldman (German Literature, UC Berkeley):
"On Girardian Auto-Critique and Biblical Epistemology"

11:30 Coffee Break

12:00 Manuele Gragnolati (Italian Literature, University of Oxford / ICI Berlin) & Christoph Holzhey (Physics / German Literature, ICI Berlin):
"Mimetic and Performative Desire in Dante and Pasolini"

12:45 Fatima Naqvi (German/Austrian Literature, Rutgers University / ICI Berlin):
"Twins and Triangles: The Doubling of Desire from Musil to Bernhard"

13:30 Lunch Break

Session 2

Chair: Heather Webb (Ohio State University)

15:30 Hania Siebenpfeiffer (German Literature, Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität Greifswald / ICI Berlin):
"Deceivable Desires in Christa Wolf's Medea"

16:45 Robert Buch (Comparative Literature, University of Pittsburgh):
"Mimetic Desire in Jonathan Littell's Les Bienveillantes"

17:30 Coffee Break

18:00 Jobst Welge (Comparative Literature, Freie Universität Berlin):
"Desire and Deceit in the Work of Roberto Arlt"

18:45 Friedrich Balke (Philosophy / Cultural and Media Studies, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar):
"Mimetic Rivalry, Sovereignty, and Fiction in Political and Military Theory"

19:30 Reception

SATURDAY, 11 JUNE

Session 3

Chair: Manuele Gragnolati

10:00 Sara Fortuna (Philosophy, Università Guglielmo Marconi / ICI Berlin):
"Multistable Images and Aspect Change: Girard and Deleuze on Proust"

10:45 Marco Formisano (Classics, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin):
"The Desire to Be You: The Discourse of Praise for the Roman Emperor"

11:30 Coffee Break

Chair: Christoph Holzhey

12:00 Luca Di Blasi (Philosophy, ICI Berlin):
"Beyond Mimetic Desire: Girard and Žižek"

12:45 Gunter Gebauer (Philosophy, Freie Universität Berlin): "Models and Control of Desire in Literature and in Games"

13:30 Final Discussion