



Workshop "Storytelling from the Combat Zone: Military Blogs as Contemporary War Narratives"

9-10 November 2012, von-Gerber-Bau, Room 54

Since their emergence during the Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, milblogs have left a major impact on cultural practices of representing and deliberating events and experiences of war. This workshop aims at exploring the specific properties and socio-cultural potential of milblogs against the backdrop of older forms and traditions of war narratives, with a particular focus on the American context. It will discuss the dynamics by which milbloggers represent experiences of war and negotiate their political or personal meanings. In addition, it will explore the cultural work that is done through the sharing of war narratives between soldiers and their audiences.

Friday, 9 Nov.

4:30 – 5:00 pm

Opening Remarks

Katja Kanzler and Frank Usbeck (TU Dresden)

5:00 – 6:30 pm

"Female Military Bloggers: The Narratives of Military Life"

Svetlana Makeyeva (TU Dortmund)

"(Native American) Ceremonial Storytelling: A Cultural Perspective on Civil Reintegration in Milblogging from Afghanistan"

Frank Usbeck (TU Dresden)

Saturday, 10 Nov.

10:00 – 12:00 noon

"Live from the Front: Milblogging and Patterns in the Modern War Narrative"

Brian Schneider (Universität Konstanz)

"Storyfying War: Writing Lives and Combat in Contemporary America"

Simone Schwär (Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz)

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Lunch

1:00 – 2:00 pm

Final Discussion

Joined by Johanna Roehring (Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen) via Skype

Organized by Katja Kanzler and Frank Usbeck.

This workshop is part of the joint Leipzig-Dresden research initiative on "Selbst-Bewusste Erzählungen: Textlichkeit und gesellschaftliche Relevanz in US-amerikanischer Gegenwartskultur": www.selbst-bewusste-erzaehlungen.de.

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