

CONFERENCE  
05.-07.07.2012

VENUE  
& REGISTRATION

HISTORISCHE  
LEBENSSELTEN

DFG FOR 875

in populären Wissenskulturen der Gegenwart

### History and Humour – 1800 to Present

International Conference at Freiburg University

One tends to associate history with serious modes of presentation (academic, heroic, tragic) rather than with humorous ones. Yet Clio also smiles and laughs out loud: Comic renderings of historical events and figures have made a significant contribution to 'popular' history since around 1800. We find them in all European cultures and in a wide range of texts, images and performances, in styles both coarse and refined. History has been the subject of caricature, satire, the cartoon and comic book, stage and television/film comedy, and the parody history textbook as exemplified in the British classic, *1066 and All That*. There are special national traditions which the conference seeks to explore and compare. But it will also address questions of a more general nature. Theories of humour are diverse but agree in a number of elements: On the intellectual level, laughter seems to be an elementary reaction to incompatible or contradictory frames of reference and interpretation. On the emotional level, laughter releases apprehension and tension, and it discharges feelings of aggression and contempt. It is aroused by the deformed and unfamiliar, it exposes and punishes the unsocial, and it deflates the grand.

To what purpose have such elements been employed in the humorous presentation of history? From what contexts do humorous presentations arise? At what audiences are they directed, and how have they been received?

<http://portal.uni-freiburg.de/historische-lebenswelten/veranstaltungen>

### VENUE

The conference will take place at Kollegiengebäude III, Platz der Universität 3, rooms **3118** (Thursday) and **3042** (Friday & Saturday).

A map of the Humanities Campus can be found at <http://www.uni-freiburg.de/universitaet/kontakt-und-wegweiser/lageplaene/universitaetszentrum>

### ORGANISATION

Prof. Dr. Barbara Korte  
Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Cheauré

### REGISTRATION

Doris Lechner  
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DFG Forschergruppe 875:  
Historische Lebenswelten in populären  
Wissenskulturen der Gegenwart  
Universität Freiburg  
Belfortstr. 16, rm 1009  
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No conference fee.

Please register by **Friday, 22 June 2012**.

## History and Humour – 1800 to Present

5-7 July 2012



ALBERT-LUDWIGS-UNIVERSITÄT  
FREIBURG

# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

05.-07.07.2012

# HISTORY AND HUMOUR – 1800 TO PRESENT

## THURSDAY, 05.07.2012 | HS 3118

REGISTRATION from 17:30

- 18:00 **Barbara Korte** (Freiburg)  
Introduction
- 18:30 **Lesley Milne** (Nottingham)  
Letting Loose the Doggerel of War: Humorous and Satirical Journals in Britain, France and Germany 1914-1918
- 19:15 **Brian Maidment** (Salford)  
The After-life of Regency Caricature: Victorian Re-imaginings of Early Nineteenth Century London
- 20:00 **Martin Conboy** (Sheffield)  
Goeff Hurst's Ball: Popular Tabloids and Humour on the Dark Side

**CONFERENCE WARMING**

## FRIDAY, 06.07.2012 | HS 3042

- 10:00 **Katharina Boehm** (Regensburg)  
Antiquarian Laughter: Satire, Sex and Homosociability in Late-Eighteenth Century Dilettanti Culture  
**Ulrike Zimmermann** (Freiburg)  
On Boots, Beef and *Blackadder*: The Comic Historiography of the Duke of Wellington  
DISCUSSION
- 11:00 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 11:30 **Bob Nicholson** (Manchester)  
The Laughter of Good Fellowship? Negotiating the Past, Present and Future in Anglo-American Humour, 1870-1900  
**Dorothea Flothow** (Salzburg)  
Marrying the Monarch: Charles II in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Historical Comedies  
**Allison Stagg** (New York)  
Presidential Humor: The Political Caricature of James Akin  
DISCUSSION
- 13:00 **LUNCH BREAK**

## FRIDAY, 06.07.2012 (continued) | HS 3042

- 14:00 **Sandra Schwab** (Mainz)  
Richard Doyle's Historical Caricatures  
**Katerina Varela** (Athens)  
George Papandreou – A Leader Through the Cartoons (1960-1967)  
DISCUSSION
- 15:00 **SHORT BREAK**
- 15:15 **Axel Heimsoth** (Essen)  
Alfred and Friedrich Alfred Krupp as Butt of Jokes? The German Perception of the Economic Elite in the 19th century  
**Moshe Maggid** (Jerusalem)  
The Humorous Ladino Newspapers in Ottoman Turkey  
**Eberhard Demm** (Koszalin)  
Propaganda through Humour: Cartoons in World War I  
DISCUSSION
- 16:45 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 17:15 **Jonathan Waterlow** (Oxford)  
Mirth, Myth and Martyrs: The Loaded Histories of Popular Humour in Stalin's 1930s  
**Martina Kessel** (Bielefeld)  
'Victims' and 'Perpetrators': Constructing History and Society in Nazi Humour  
**Louisa Reichstetter** (Jena)  
Between Journalism, Arts and Politics: Left-wing and Liberal Satiric Press and Their Protagonists in the Interwar Period. A Comparative Study of Germany, France and Spain  
DISCUSSION
- DINNER**

## SATURDAY, 07.07.2012 | HS 3042

- 09:30 **Elisabeth Cheauré** (Freiburg)  
Napoleon and the 'Patriotic War of 1812' in Russian Humour  
**Benjamin Kohlmann** (Freiburg)  
'Brittle Ghosts': Surrealism, History, and Black Humour in the 1930s  
**Irvin Hunt** (New York)  
Ralph Ellison's Humor as Curative Historiography  
DISCUSSION
- 11:00 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 11:20 **Shannon Granville** (Washington)  
History with a Human Face: Humour and Historical Representation in *Hetalia: Axis Powers*  
**Sabrina Feickert** (Freiburg)  
'Then We Will Fight in the Shade': Comic Representations of Sparta and Dealing with Fearsome Otherness  
**Duncan Marks** (Sheffield)  
We ARE Amused; the Afterlife of Queen Victoria's Alleged Remark, 'We are not amused'  
DISCUSSION
- 12:40 **Doris Lechner** (Freiburg)  
Round-Up (until c. 13:10)