Americanization and Anti-Americanism
A Conference Series

Das Amerika der Autoren:
Beispiele aus der deutschsprachigen
Literatur und Publizistik des 20.
Jahrhunderts
December 5-7, 2003
Landhaus Arnoth, Kleinich im Hunsrück

This conference turned attention to the image of America in the 20th Century from the perspective of German writers and essayists like Thomas Mann, Berthold Brecht, Ingeborg Bachmann, and Adolf Halfeld. Participants included: David Bathrick, Sonja Hilzinger, Alexander Honold, Werner Jung, Chryssoula Kambas, Thomas Knieche, Hannes Krauss, Agnes C. Mueller, Hugh Ridley, Jeffrey Sammons, Erhard Schütz, Alexander Stephan, Sigrid Thielenking, and Jochen Vogt, as co-organizer. The conference was supported by the Kulturwissenschaftliche Institut des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, the Universität Duisburg-Essen, the Mershon Center for the Study of International Security and Public Policy at the Ohio State University, the Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Arbeit (ERP Fund), and the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung (Transcoop).

Die Amerikanisierung der (west-)deutschen Kultur seit 1945
March 4-6, 2004
Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut, Essen

The complex role of Americanization and anti-Americanism in the intellectual and cultural realms of West German life, including literature, theater, music, art, and film, formed the basis of discussion for this event. Speakers were: Peter Beicken, Anne-Marie Corbin, Jessica Gienow-Hecht, Gret Haller, Dagmar von Hoff, Christine Ivanovic, Steven P. Remy, Klaus Siblewski, Alexander Stephan, Hans Christian Stillmark, Hermann Sturm, and Jochen Vogt, as co-organizer. This conference was sponsored by the Kulturwissenschaftliche Institut des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, the Universität Duisburg-Essen, the Mershon Center for the Study of International Security and Public Policy at the Ohio State University, the Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Arbeit (ERP Fund), and the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung (Transcoop).

The Books

Jeans, Rock & Vietnam: Amerikanische Kultur in der DDR.

Americanization and Anti-Americanism: The German Encounter with American Culture After 1945.

The Americanization of Europe: Culture, Diplomacy, and Anti-Americanism after 1945.

Das Amerika der Autoren: Deutsche Ansichten von Kafka bis 9/11.

Forthcoming:
Die Amerikanisierung der (west-)deutschen Kultur seit 1945.

Related Events


“Americanization and Anti-Americanism: The Impact of American Culture on Germany After 1945.” Graduate Student Conference, Oct. 16-17, 2002, Mershon Center/Max Kade Center, The Ohio State University.

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Jeans, Rock und Vietnam: Amerikanische Kultur in der DDR
January 15-18, 2002
Literaturforum, Berlin

The conference addressed the impact of American culture on East Germany. Topics of discussion included the role of American culture in the everyday life of East Germans, the American influence on politics and literature, as well as the incorporation of American cultural elements into East German theater, films, and television. Conference participants included: David Bathrick, Rita Böttcher, Joachim Fiebach, Peter Hoff, Anna-Christina Giovanopoulos, Yaak Karsunke, Karen Rouff Kramer, Günter Kunert, Ina Merkel, Klaus Milich, Wolfgang Mühl-Benninghaus, Utz Riese, Rainer Schnoor, and Peter Wicke. This conference was sponsored courtesy of the Literaturforum im Brecht-Haus, Berlin, the Mershon Center for the Study of International Security and Public Policy at the Ohio State University, the United States Embassy in Berlin, and the Axel-Springer Stiftung.

Americanization and Anti-Americanism: The Impact of American Culture on Germany after 1945
October 18-20, 2002
Mershon Center

The “American Century” stood at the center of this conference’s examination of the incorporation of and reaction to American culture in Germany since the end of the second World War. Talks focused on the American image of the U.S. in Germany, cultural politics, popular culture, film, and the perception of the United States on a European scale. Participants were: David Bathrick, Volker Berghahn, Russell Berman, Thomas Elsaesser, Michael Ermarth, Heide Fehrenbach, Winfried Fluck, Bernd Greiner, Sabine Hake, Jost Hermand, Rob Kroe, Kaspar Maase, Bowman Miller, Richard Pells, and Karsten D. Voigt. This conference was sponsored by the Mershon Center for the Study of International Security and Public Policy at the Ohio State University, the Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Arbeit (ERP Fund), the German Academic Exchange Service, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, and the Ohio State University’s Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures.

American Culture in Europe: Americanisation & Anti-Americanism Since 1945
September 27, 2003
The Rothmere American Institute
University of Oxford, Great Britain

“American Culture in Europe” offered researchers the chance to present their findings about the reactions to American culture from the perspectives of individual countries. Countries addressed included: Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Poland, the Soviet Union/Russia, Spain, and Sweden. A roundtable specifically addressed the effects of 9/11 on anti-Americanism in Europe. Speakers included: Andrzej Antoszek, Günter Bischof, Dag Blanck, Kate Delaney, David Ellwood, Mike-Frank G. Epitropoulos, Richard Golsan, Rob Kroe, Dorothy Noyes, Marsha Siefert, Nils Arne Sørensen, and Alexander Stephan. This group was joined for a public discussion by Mick Hume, Robert McGeehan, and Ziauddin Sarder. The event was made possible by the support of the Rothmere American Institute at the University of Oxford and the Mershon Center for the Study of International Security and Public Policy at the Ohio State University.