

The Materiality and Mediality of Public Bodies
Elisabeth Bronfen and Barbara Straumann
Summer 2006, Thursday 14.15-17.45

1. (6. April) Theory session
Group presentations on theories relating to body criticism, performativity, and presence

The Two Bodies of the Renaissance Sovereign

2. (13 April) The two bodies of the king (Kantorowicz)
William Shakespeare: *Richard II*.
3. (20 April) Queen Elizabeth I. and her portraiture
film screening
4. (27 April) The sovereign and the subject
Thomas Hobbes: *Leviathan* (selection)

Interlude: Tableaux vivants

5. (4 May) Circulation of poses, gestures, attitudes
Edith Wharton: *House of Mirth*

Hysteria and Bourgeois Culture

6. (11 May) Jane Austen: *Sense and Sensibility*
7. (18 May) Arthur Schnitzler: *Fräulein Else*

Female Performers

8. (June 1) The Corinne craze
Germaine de Staël: *Corinne, or Italy*
9. (June 15) The female stage
Isaak Dinesen (Karen Blixen): “The Dreamers”

10. (Saturday June 17) Project Day: Stars, Celebrity Culture

11. (June 29) Contemporary performances
Angela Carter: *Nights at the Circus*
12. (July 6) Grand Finale

Please note that the course includes the lecture and the seminar. Presence in both is required. All participants (*aktive Mitarbeit*, seminar papers, and auditors) are required to be part of a group presentation in week one, addressing theoretical issues at stake in the seminar. Furthermore, you will present a project during our project day on stars and celebrity culture. In preparation for this project day, buy and read Elisabeth Bronfen and Barbara Straumann, *Die Diva: Geschichte einer Bewunderung*. München: Schirmer/Mosel, 2002 (available at amazon.de for CHF 30.-). Those of you who want to write a seminar paper can either develop their presentation from the theory session in more depth or elaborate on their star project. You could also propose a topic of your own choice, which must, however, be related to the reading and discussion of this seminar.