

Audre Lorde's Germany

African Diasporic Presences and Influences on Contemporary German Literary and Cultural Politics

Humboldt University, Berlin. Friday 30 to Saturday 31 January 2015

Friday, 30 January

[Room 2097]

12:30–13:30

Opening

Germany before and after Audre Lorde

Christine Vogt-William (HU Berlin); Eva Boesenberg (HU Berlin);
Maisha Eggers (Magdeburg-Stendal / HU Berlin)

13:30–15:00

Keynote Address: Fatima El-Tayeb (UC San Diego)

[Chair: Nicola Lauré al-Samarai]

Dimensions of Diaspora: Women of Color Feminism, Black Europe and Queer Memory Discourses

15:00–15:30

Coffee Break

15:30–15:45

Pre-Screening Poetry Reading:

Gloria Wekker reads Audre Lorde: 'A Litany for Survival'

15:45–18:15

Film Screening: [80 minutes]

A Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde (1995)

18:15–18:30

Break

18:30–20:00

Distinguished Du Bois Lecture

[Senatssaal]

Kara Keeling (University of Southern California)

[Chair: Peggy Piesche]

"A Now that can Breed Futures": Audre Lorde and the Cinematic Politics of Documentary Projects as Legacy Building

21:00

End of first Conference Day (conference dinner)

9:30–9:45

Pre-Panel Poetry Reading I:

- ❖ **Tracie Morris** reads **Audre Lorde: 'Power'**
- ❖ **Sarah Mouwani:** 'Im Namen des Volkes' ('In the Name of the People')

9:45–11:15

Graduate Student Workshop:***Studying Audre Lorde's Poetry and Politics*****[Chair: Noa Ha]**

Three students from the MA seminar 'Audre Lorde in Germany', will present based short projects on the significance of Lorde's poetry and prose for Black German identity building processes.

11:15–11:45**Coffee Break**

11:45–12:00

Pre-Panel Poetry Reading II:**May Ayim: 'Borderless and Brazen'**

12:00–13:30

Transatlantic Dialogues: *The Multiple Perspectives of Audre Lorde's Black Diasporic Paradigms***[Chair: Eva Boesenberg]**

These are dialogues directed towards addressing matters that are of political, historical and cultural value to Black diasporic groups both in the US and in Germany, where Audre Lorde's Black Feminist paradigms and understandings of intersectionality and diaspora are paramount.

- **Cassandra Ellerbe-Dück** (Eine Welt der Vielfalt e.V., Mannheim)

Black Women in the Whirlwind: Forging Diasporic Connections in Audre Lorde's Footsteps.

- **Katharina Gerund** (University of Erlangen)

Sisterhood in and beyond the Black Diaspora: Audre Lorde's Feminist Politics

- **Maggi Morehouse** (Coastal Carolina University SC)

African American Women Warriors in the US Armed Forces in Germany**13:30–14:30****Lunch**

14:30–15:15

Pre-Screening Reading:

- ❖ Tracie Morris reads
Audre Lorde: 'Berlin is Hard on Colored Girls'
'Audre Lorde's Mirror: Myrna Bain, A Reflection'
- ❖ Sharon Dodua-Otoo reads excerpts from
the things i am thinking while smiling politely...

15:15–16:30

Film Screening [81 minutes]:

Audre Lorde: The Berlin Years (1984-1992) (2012)

16:30-17:00

Coffee Break

17:00-18:30

Three-Part Conversation: *The Stories of Our Lives. Historicisation as a Feminist Task*

This panel discussion will focus on critical perspectives from feminist scholars of color in Germany with regard to the documentary film *Audre Lorde: The Berlin Years*. [German]

Maisha Eggers, Nicola Laure al-Samarai and Katja Kinder

18:30-18:45

Break

18:45–19:00

Pre-Panel Poetry Reading III:

- ❖ Tracie Morris reads Audre Lorde: 'A Woman Speaks'
- ❖ Sarah Mouwani: 'Erdreflektion' ('Earth Reflection')

19:00–20:30

Keynote Conversations

[Chair: Christine Vogt-William]

"I am a Black feminist, lesbian, mother, warrior, poet"

Moving Forward: Lorde's legacy of intersectional, queer, black, feminist cultural politics

This panel gathers significant contemporary Afro-European scholars and activists together, (who were close to the poet in one way or another) to focus on Lorde's intersectional approach in her political activity. This dialog aims to provide an overview of the complexity of experience and the political positions of the black diaspora in Germany through the last 30 years from Lorde's arrival in 1984 till the present (2014). [German and English]

Katharina Oguntoye [JOLIBA, Berlin], **Gloria Wekker** [Utrecht University, Holland], **Tracie Morris** [Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NYC], **Peggy Piesche** [University of Bayreuth]

20:30

Final Remarks from the Organisers

End : Audio of Audre Lorde reading *A Litany for Survival*