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Articles

CHRISTIAN M. ASPALTER

Über die Unpässlichkeit des Gelächters. Joseph Felix (von) Kurz-Bernardons “Prinzeßin Pumphia”.....1

In the mid-eighteenth century Joseph Felix (von) Kurz-Bernardon was in the center of the debate between the bourgeois conception of theater and the performance aesthetic of popular theatre. His “entfesselter Theater” is part of both his *Spielpraxis* and his *Schreibpraxis*. Hence this article offers a re-reading of “Prinzeßin Pumphia” that focuses on the laughter evoked by the play as a challenge to conventional morality.

GEOFFREY WINTHROP-YOUNG

Am Rand der Uchronie: Oswald Levetts *Verirrt in den Zeiten* und die Frühphase der *alternate history*.....21

Oswald Levett’s *Verirrt in den Zeiten* (1933) depicts a journey in time that almost results in a counterfactual alteration of history. Thus the text develops narrative strategies like those that were starting to distinguish the Anglo-American science-fiction subgenre known as “alternate history.” Just as the novel’s protagonist plays with unrealized possibilities for historical change, the novel unwittingly points toward a new type of narrative.

FRANK PILIPP

Kafkaesque Odysseys: Peter Rosei’s Short Stories45

Rosei’s early texts contain a vast array of often casual, nonchalant, and playful references to Kafka’s fictions. Rosei transforms Kafka’s surreal elements into a

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reality-bound theme of universal loss of meaning and an (at times masochistic) wallowing in what one might call the aesthetics of futility.

JAIME FEIJÓO

Verkehrte Geschichte(n): Erkundung eines österreichischen Grundmotivs in Robert Menasses "Trilogie der Entgeisterung"63

In his "Trilogie der Entgeisterung" Robert Menasse transforms the theoretical reflection on the "transvestite" Austrian identity found in his essays into a fictional world. Drawing on Hegel and Walter Benjamin, he produces a series of "topsy-turvy narratives" ("*verkehrte Geschichten*") that are connected to the regressive orientation that history takes in the postmodern period.

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Richard Schaukal und die Lyriktheorie der Jahrhundertwende79

Richard Schaukal (1874–1942), one of the authors of "Jung Wien," not only wrote poetry but also developed his own poetic and aesthetic theories. This article situates him vis-à-vis Stefan George and Arno Holz, setting his aesthetics of genius apart from the conventional division of fin-de-siècle literature into symbolism and naturalism.

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