



German Historical Institute
1607 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, DC

Conference

Black Diaspora and Germany Across the Centuries

March 19 – 21, 2009

Conveners:

Martin Klimke (GHI), Anne Kuhlmann-Smirnov (University of Bremen),
Mischa Honeck (University of Heidelberg)

Program

Thursday, March 19

4:15 pm

Welcome

Philipp Gassert (GHI)

Mischa Honeck, Martin Klimke and Anne Kuhlmann-Smirnov

4:45 - 5:45 pm

**Panel I: Black-European Encounters in the Early Modern Period I:
Images and Realities**

Chair: **Maria Höhn** (Vassar College)

Paul Kaplan (Purchase College, SUNY)

*The Calenberg Altarpiece: Black African Christians in Renaissance
Germany*

Allison Blakely (Boston University)

Blacks in Early Modern Europe: Image vs. Reality?

6:00 - 7:00 pm

Keynote Address

Kate Lowe (Queen Mary, University of London)

Black Diaspora in Europe in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries

Comments: Dirk Hoerder (Arizona State University)

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Reception at the GHI

Friday, March 20

- 9:00 am **Breakfast at the GHI**
- 9:30 am **Opening**
- 9:45 -11:15 pm **Panel II: Black-European Encounters in the Early Modern Period II:
Between the Global and the Local**
Chair: **Uta Balbier** (GHI)
- Peter Martin** (Hamburg)
*Black Diaspora Studies in Germany:
Some Remarks to the State of the Art*
- Anne Kuhlmann-Smirnov** (University of Bremen)
*Mapping Seventeenth- and Eighteenth-Century Black Germany:
Migration Routes and Social Spaces*
- Rashid-S. Pegah** (University of Würzburg)
Real and Imagined Africans in Court divertissements
- 11:15 pm **Coffee break**
- 11:30 am -12:45 pm **Panel III: Writing and Reading Blackness:
Literary and Academic Representations**
Chair: **Philipp Gassert** (GHI)
- Heike Paul** (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)
*The German Reception of Black Writing and Black Authorship in
the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries*
- Jeannette Eileen Jones** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
“On the Brain of the Negro”: Race, Comparative Anatomy, and
Friedrich Tiedemann’s Abolitionism
- Eva Ulrike Pirker** (University of Freiburg)
*White Bertha – Black Jenni? Fantasies of Race in Theodor Storm’s
Novella Von Jenseits des Meeres (From Beyond the Sea)*
- 12:45 -3:00 pm **Lunch break**

3:00 - 4:30 pm

Panel IV: Images of Blackness in Nineteenth-Century Germany

Chair: **Richard F. Wetzell** (GHI)

Jens-Uwe Guettel (Pennsylvania State University)

Christoph Meiners, Pro-Slavery Thought, and Transnational Racism in Late Eighteenth-Century Germany

Bradley Naranch (Stanford University)

Global Proletarians, Uncle Toms, and Native Savages: The Antinomies of Black Identity in Nineteenth-Century Germany

Frank Mehring (Free University of Berlin)

Synecdochic (Trans-)Nationalism? Portraying the Black Diaspora from a German-American Perspective

4:30 pm

Coffee break

5:00 - 6:00 pm

Keynote Address

Maria I. Diedrich (University of Muenster)

“Kasseler Neger – Kasseler Mohren”?

Silenced Narratives of the African Diaspora in Germany

Comment: Anke Ortlepp (GHI)

7:30 - 9:30 pm

Conference Dinner

Iron Gate Restaurant

1734 North St., NW

Washington, DC 20036

Saturday, March 21

8:30 am

Breakfast at the GHI

9:15 - 10:45 pm

Panel V: Transatlantic Migration and Travel

Chair: **David Lazar** (GHI)

Mischa Honeck (University of Heidelberg)

Liberating Sojourns? African-American Travelers in Mid-Nineteenth Century Germany

Stefanie Michels (University Frankfurt)

A German Black Atlantic? – “Race” and Space between Haiti and Cameroon, 1789-1914

Kendahl Radcliffe (California State University, Fullerton)
*Uplift Ideology vs. an Imperialist Agenda: Tuskegee's Cotton
Growing Scheme in German Togoland*

10:45 pm

Coffee break

11:00 am -12:30 pm

Panel VI: Colonial Interactions in the Age of Imperialism

Chair: **Manfred Berg** (University of Heidelberg)

David Ciarlo (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

German Advertising and the African Chief:

King Bell in the German Consumer Imaginary, 1884-1914

Robert Aitken (University of Liverpool)

Education and Migration: Cameroonian School Children

and Apprentices in the German Metropole, 1884-1914

Christian Koller (Bangor University)

*"... diese verwilderten, rohen, zum Theil unmenschlichen Gesellen als
Vortruppen gegen das deutsche Volk": German Perceptions of African
Colonial Soldiers in the French Army, 1859–1914*

12:30 pm

End of Conference