German Screen Studies SIG Report: 2018

The German Screen Studies SIG has enjoyed a busy and successful year promoting German Screen Media around the UK and beyond, and has continued to enjoy a strong membership base.

In 2018, the primary focus of the German Screen Studies SIG steering group—as part of the German Screen Studies Network (GSSN) —has been the development of a multi-institutional, international research project as part of the German Academic Exchange Service’s “Promoting German Studies” programme. The project, Circulating Cinema. The Moving Image Archive as Anglo-German Contact Zone was successfully awarded funding in the summer of 2018. Led by German Screen Studies SIG members Professor Erica Carter (King’s College, London), with co-investigators Dr Martin Brady (King’s College, London), Dr Annie Ring (University College London) and Dr Elizabeth Ward (University of Hull), Circulating Cinema (CIRCE) explores the uses of the transnational archive as a resource for the retrieval, curation and dissemination of Anglo-German film heritage. In seven interconnected subprojects, academic researchers come together with British and German students, cultural practitioners and lay audiences to explore archival holdings that register the traces of a shared Anglo-German media history.

Circulating Cinema Project

http://germanscreenstudies.eu/circulating-cinema/
The BAFTSS SIG will act as the project’s principal UK research forum and we hope to present the project at BAFTSS 2020. Engagement and dissemination activities began in December 2018 when Prof Carter was invited by Prof Vinzenz Hediger (Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt), to join a German delegation to the Nigerian Film Commission’s annual ZUMA Film Festival in Abuja, Nigeria. Prof Carter’s paper, ‘Circulating archives and public histories,’ presented first insights from Circulating Cinema to an audience of filmmakers and other film industry professionals as well as archivists, curators and academics from Nigeria, the US, Germany, the UK and other global locations.

http://germanscreenstudies.eu/circulating-cinema/events/creative-circulations-access-presentation-and-valorization-film/

Alongside the CIRCE research project, SIG members have also participated in a number of research, public engagement and schools events in 2018 around the country:

**January**

- History Channel’s *Project Nazi*: Prof. Carter of the GSSN worked with director Anke Lueddecke (Midnight Oil productions) on film-historical contributions to the mini-series *Project Nazi* (http://germanscreenstudies.eu/news/gssn-involvement-history-channels-project-nazi/)
• Launch of a German Film Club for school students in West Yorkshire by Dr Elizabeth Ward (http://germanscreenstudies.eu/news/gssn-launches-film-club-school-pupils-west-yorkshire/)

February

• *Die Habenichtse*: film screening and discussion with the filmmakers and Dr Annie Ring

March

• *Session Thirteen: The Sun Island*: film screening followed by a conversation between Thomas Elsaesser and Prof Erica Carter

July

• *Neun Leben hat die Katze*: introduction to the film by Dr Annie Ring
• *Subjektitüde and Brecht die Macht der Manipulateure*: film screenings followed by a Q&A with Prof. Erica Carter

September

• *Käthe Kollwitz: Images of a Life*: introduction to the film by Dr Elizabeth Ward at Ferens Art Gallery, Hull
October

- Lotte Eisner: writer, archivist, curator: two-day symposium exploring and celebrating the work and legacy of Lotte Eisner


November

- Margarethe von Trotta UK retrospective: film introductions around the country by German Screen Studies SIG members
  (http://germanscreenstudies.eu/news/personal-political-three-films-margarethe-von-trotta/)