CALL FOR PAPERS:

The Subject and Liminality in Contemporary Literature (Poetry, Prose, Drama)
University of Trier
Trier, Germany, July 6 - 10, 2017

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to invite you to submit to the latest in a series of international conferences to be held in Trier, Germany on July 6 - 10, 2017:

The Subject and Liminality in Contemporary Literature (Poetry, Prose, Drama).

The conference takes place under the aegis of a three-year bilateral project, The Typology of the Subject in Contemporary Russian Poetry 1990-2010, and is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

The awareness of thresholds, liminal spaces, and transitions, as well as their mutability, has emerged as a major theme of contemporary literature. In all aspects of human life, boundaries traditionally regarded as firm are being symbolically or factually shifted and displaced: between the sexes; between the human, animal and technology; between the real and the virtual; the conscious and unconscious (sub-/superconscious); body and spirit (human, divine or demonic); and so on. This redrawing of seemingly fixed limits and established spaces deeply influence the self-perception and self-experience of the subject, who, by measuring, shifting, and transforming borders also constitutes herself as a limen as well as an agent.
The conference will focus on the following questions:

*How does the literature of the 21st century represent the liminal subject?*
*Which thresholds are particularly relevant to literature?*
*What literary forms correspond to the liminal subject?*
*Are there any specific genres or, in particular, intergeneric forms that respond to liminal subjectivity?*

The conference will concentrate on Russian poetry. However, we also invite studies of other genres, including forms that cross genre and media. Additional national literatures, in the first place German, will be involved on a smaller scale. Comparative studies are particularly welcome.

*The organizers will compensate presenters for travel expenses and four nights with full board. The conference dates are as follows: arrival – 6th of July 2017; conference – 7-9th of July 2017; departure – 10th of July 2017. The conference will be held in the Robert-Schuman-Haus (http://www.tagen-bistum-trier.de/robert-schuman-haus/).*

To applying for fully funded participation in the conference, it is necessary to submit an *abstract* (1 page) by *December 15, 2016*. The abstract should summarize the texts and authors to be discussed, as well as the presentation’s main thesis. You will receive confirmation no later than January 31, 2017 as to whether your presentation has been included in the program.

*As early publication of the project is required, complete presentations must be submitted as articles no later than June 1, 2017.* If the articles are not submitted before the beginning of the conference, the expenses of attendee cannot be reimbursed by the DFG project funds.

Articles may be up to a *maximum of 60,000 characters in length*. The article should accompany an abstract of 3,000 characters in English, and a list of up to 10 keywords (terms, names). The conference’s presentation and publication languages are German, English, and Russian. All participants will receive the opportunity to view the articles before or during the conference.

Finally, we would like to draw your attention to the project’s most recent publication:


With best regards and looking forward to your collaboration,

Univ.-Prof. Dr. H. Stahl.