

Modernity's "Others": Plurality and Counter- Hegemonic Perspectives in 20th-Century German-Language Literature

BUCERIUS INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES

Moderated by Ariel Pridan



Felix Nussbaum (1904–1944) The Folly Square, 1931

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Reading Ingeborg Bachmann in Israel

In "Biographisches" Ingeborg Bachmann who was born in Klagenfurt, Carinthia in 1926 describes a mythical homeland in which multiple languages are spoken and multiple borders are crossed. This nostalgic imagination of the Habsburg Empire challenges the monolithic narrative of the modern nation-state that excludes others and erases diversity. Focusing on Bachmann's prose work from the 1970s, the first part of this lecture examines her poetic resistance to authoritarian structures in post-World War II society, highlighting her critique of patriarchal and political repression. The second part explores the reception of Bachmann's literature by Anna Maria Jokl who immigrated to Jerusalem in 1965, and Ruth Almog who was born in pre-state Israel, which offers an insight into the question of modernity's "Others" beyond Europe and the German language.

Wednesday, July 9, 2025
18:00 (11 am EST)

On ZOOM: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/9785558796?omn=87821890584>