

Einladung zum Vortrag

Dienstag, 16. Juni, 19 Uhr, s. t.

Institut für Theaterwissenschaft, Georgenstraße 11, Raum 109 (1. Stock)

Prof. Laurence Senelick (Tufts University, USA)

THE OFFENBACH CENTURY: HIS OVERLOOKED INFLUENCE ON MODERN CULTURE

In 1887, Alphonse Daudet declared that the era should be called the century of Jacques Offenbach. The cultural influence of Offenbach's comic operas, although pervasive and worldwide, has been overlooked or sidelined. To some degree, this results from his being positioned as the anti-Wagner and his work associated with the so-called decadence of the Second Empire. Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, however, Offenbach haunted the thought and artistry of such figures as Nietzsche, Strindberg, Chekhov, Nestroy, Karl Kraus, Paul Klee and Eca de Queiroz. Innovators in the theatre, such as Reinhardt, Nemirovich-Danchenko, Barrault, and Felsenstein) drew on Offenbach to realize their concepts. My study is an effort to reclaim and restore Offenbach's central position in the modernist project.

Laurence Senelick is Fletcher Professor of Drama and Oratory at Tufts University; Fellow of the American Academy of Art and Sciences; Distinguished Scholar of the American Society for Theatre Research; and recipient of the St George medal of the Russian Ministry of Culture for contributions to Russian art and culture.

His books include *Gordon Craig's Moscow Hamlet*; *The Chekhov Theatre: A Century of the Plays in Performance*; *Gender in Performance*; *The Changing Room: Sex, Drag and Theatre*; *Stanislavsky: A Life in Letters*; and *Soviet Theatre: A Documentary History*.

His translations have been widely performed; they include the complete plays of Anton Chekhov (W. W. Norton), Gogol's *The Inspector General*, Schiller's *Love and Intrigue*, Euripides's *The Bacchae*, Strindberg's *The Ghost Sonata*, and Giraudoux's *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, among others.

He has been the recipient of awards from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies and many other academic organizations.

He is also a professional actor and director, who has worked with, among others, Actors' Company, Chicago; the Actors Theatre of Louisville; the Phoenix Theatre, New York; and the Boston Lyric Opera. He is currently working on a book about the cultural influence of Jacques Offenbach.

Prof. Senelick will be jointly invited by the DFG-Reinhard Koselleck Project *Global Theatre Histories* (Prof. Dr. Christopher Balme, Dr. Nic Leonhardt) and the Centre for Advanced Studies (CAS) as a Fellow to LMU this June.

Der Vortrag findet in Englischer Sprache statt.

Um Anmeldung wird gebeten bis 15. Juni an gero.toegl@lrz.uni-muenchen.de