

HELLMUT AMMERLAHN

Professor Emeritus of German and Comparative Literature
Box 353130, University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195-3130, USA

E-mail: ammerlan@u.washington.edu
Office tel.: 206/543-4580, fax: 206/685-9063
Home tel.: 206/362-8118, fax: 206/362-1617

BIBLIOGRAPHY (in chronological order) and CONFERENCE PAPERS/ University Invitations for Presentations

a) Books and Indexes

Natalie und Goethes Urbildliche Gestalt. Untersuchungen zur Morphologie und Symbolik von Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahren [the relationship between the novel's poetic symbolism and Goethe's scientific morphology]. PhD dissertation, Univ. of Texas, Austin, 1965, 155 pp. Adviser: Helmut Rehder. (Unpublished, available from University Microfilm International, Ann Arbor, Michigan).

Aufbau und Krise der Sinn-Gestalt: Tasso und die Prinzessin im Kontext der Goetheschen Werke (trl.: *Creation and "Deconstruction" of the Ideal Gestalt: Tasso and the Princess in the Context of Goethe's Works*). New York, Bern: Peter Lang, 1990 (Germanic Studies in America, vol. 58), hardcover, 173 pp.

Reviewed by: Stuart Atkins in *Goethe Yearbook* 7 (1994), 253f.; Elizabeth Calkin in *Seminar* 32 (1996), 259f.; Marianne Henn in *The German Quarterly* 70 (1997), 195f.; Walter Hinderer in *Goethe Handbuch, vol. II: Dramen*. Stuttgart, Weimar: Metzler, 1997, p. 244 (critical overview of significant research literature on Goethe's *Torquato Tasso*).

Imagination und Wahrheit. Goethes Künstler-Bildungsroman "Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre": Struktur, Symbolik, Poetologie (trl.: *Imagination and Truth. Goethe's Bildungsroman and Artist Novel "Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre": Structure, Symbolism, Poetology*). Würzburg: Königshausen & Neumann, 2003, hardcover, 448 pp.

Reviewed by: Rainer Kawa in *Zeitschrift für Germanistik* 14/2 (2004), 413f.; Waltraud Maierhofer in *German Studies Review* 28/1 (2005), 155f.; M. Casalis-Thurneysen in *Etudes Germaniques* 60/1 (2005), 167; Wilhelm Vosskamp (editor of *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre* in the Frankfurt Goethe edition: *Klassikerausgabe* and co-editor of *Germanistik*) in *Germanistik* 45 (2004), 825f. (Multiple references in: Wilhelm Vosskamp. "Ein anderes Selbst". *Bild und Bildung im deutschen Roman des 18. und 19.*

Jahrhunderts. Göttingen: Wallstein, 2004, pp. 34, 38, 41, 45, 81); Michael Minden in *The Modern Language Review* 100/4 (2005), 1145f.; Nine page review by Ellis Dye in *Goethe Yearbook* 13 (2005), 221-230.

Index to above book: "Begriffs-, Figuren- und Sachregister," 6 pages, 2 columns; "Namen- und Werkregister," 4 pages, 2 columns. Seattle. 2004. See website <http://faculty.washington.edu/ammerlan/>

b) Articles in Professional Journals and Books

- "Wilhelm Meisters Mignon - ein offenes Rätsel. Name, Gestalt, Symbol, Wesen und Werden" [on Goethe's Mignon figure and the structure of Books 1-5 of *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*]. *Deutsche Vierteljahrsschrift für Literaturwissenschaft und Geistesgeschichte* 42 (1968), 89–116. - (peer-reviewed).
- "Mignons nachgetragene Vorgeschichte und das Inzestmotiv. Zur Genese und Symbolik der Goetheschen Geniusgestalten" [on aspects of the genesis of Goethe's genius child figures in *Lehrjahre*, *Elective Affinities* and *Faust II*]. *Monatshefte* (Wisconsin) 64 (1972), 15–24. - (peer-reviewed).
- "Goethe und Wilhelm Meister, Shakespeare und Natalie: Die klassische Heilung des kranken Königsohns" [on the significance of the "sick prince" motif and of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* in Goethe's novel]. *Jahrbuch des Freien Deutschen Hochstifts* 1978, 47–84. - (peer-reviewed).
- "Goethe and Gretchens Lied vom Machandelboom: Zur Symbolik des dichterischen Schaffensprozesses" [on dismemberment motifs and the symbolism of artistic creativity in *Faust I*, *Iphigenie auf Tauris*, *Torquato Tasso*, and *Lehrjahre*]. In: *Akten des VI. Internationalen Germanisten-Kongresses*, Basel 1980, 338–344.
- "Puppe-Tänzer-Dämon-Genius-Engel: Naturkind, Poesiekind und Kunstwerdung bei Goethe" [on the metamorphosis of the artist's child-"doubles" and the symbolic phenomenology of the last stages of the creative process]. *The German Quarterly* 54 (1981), 19–32. - (peer-reviewed).
- "Poesy - Poetry - Poetology: Wilhelm 'Meister,' Hamlet und die mittleren Metamorphosen Mignons" [on the aesthetic and poetological implications of Book V of Goethe's *Lehrjahre*]. Lead article in: *Goethes Mignon und ihre Schwestern. Interpretationen und Rezeption*. Ed. Gerhart Hoffmeister. New York: Peter Lang, 1993, 1–25. - (invited).
- "Vom Püppchen zum Liebchen, vom Schatten zur erkennenden Frau: Ironische und therapeutische Selbstinszenierungen der dichterischen Phantasie in Goethes 'Anti-Werther-Dramen' *Lila* und *Triumph der Empfindsamkeit*" [on the function of irony and therapeutic creative imagination in two early Goethe dramas]. In: *Analogon Rationis. Festschrift für Gerwin Marahrens zum 65. Geburtstag*. Ed. M. Henn and C. Lorey. Edmonton 1994. 111–128. - (invited).
- "Scheiternde" Dichter? Goethes Tasso und Wilhelm Meisters Harfner als Gestaltungen poetologischer Selbstreflexion" [comparative analysis of poetological self-reflection found in two of Goethe's major artist figures]. In: *Alte Welten - neue Welten*, ed. Michael S. Batts, vol. 3, (Akten des Kongresses der Internationalen Vereinigung für

- germanische Sprach- u. Literaturwissenschaft IVG; 9), Tübingen 1996, 191. (Abstract).
- "*Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*: An Apprenticeship toward the Mastery of Exactly What?" [provides the poetological and epistemological basis for a specific answer to a 200 year old enigma]. *Colloquia Germanica* 30/2 (1997), 99–119. - (peer-reviewed).
- "Produktive und destruktive Einbildungskraft: Goethes Tasso, Harfner und Wilhelm Meister" [demonstrates the thematic proximity of Goethe's 'artist' drama to his novel, *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*]. *Orbis Litterarum* 53 (1998), 83–104. - (peer-reviewed).
- "Goethe's *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*." *Encyclopedia of German Literature*, edited by Matthias Konzett, 2 vols., (Chicago and London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2000), 347-349. - (invited).
- "Der Strukturparallelismus von Wilhelms kreativer, bildender und tätiger Vergangenheitsbewältigung in Goethes Meister-Romanen" (app. transl.: "The Structural Parallelisms of Wilhelm Meister's Creative, Artistic and Active Conquest of the Past in Goethe's Novels *Lehrjahre* and *Wanderjahre*"). *Goethe Yearbook X* (2001), 154–190. - (peer-reviewed).
- "The Marriage of Artist Novel and Bildungsroman. Goethe's *Wilhelm Meister*: A Paradigm in Disguise." *German Life and Letters* 59/1 (2006), 25-46. - (peer-reviewed).
- After providing an overview of recent scholarship and probing the issue of genre as a major key to understanding the novel, this essay examines Goethe's classical aesthetics and morphological principles to make sense of the 'masks' the author employs to hide and reveal Wilhelm's identity as a maturing creative poet/artist. It asks, for example, why Wilhelm receives the 'Lehrbrief,' which deals with basic insights into art and the artist, and why he merits the inheritance of his grandfather's sold art collection only after he has replaced the theater with the Tower Society's 'aristocracy of the mind.' Wilhelm's eye-opening encounters with socially and culturally challenging as well as increasingly sophisticated figures reflect his own cognitive development. The painful yet creative healing response to his personal trauma leads the hero to the solid foundations for and to the manifest expressions of his creative imagination. With this novel Goethe produced nothing less than the paradigmatic bildungsroman of the thinking and self-healing poet.
- "'Key' and 'Treasure Chest' Configurations in Goethe's Works: A Comparative Overview in Poetological Perspective." *Monatshefte* 101/1 (2009), pp. 1-18 (peer-reviewed).
- Goethe's self-reflection as a poet and his life-long investigation into the creative as well as the perilous power of the imagination are analyzed in this article, which traces varying configurations of the interrelated motifs of 'key' and 'treasure chest' in works from *Triumph der Empfindsamkeit* to *Wanderjahre* and *Faust II*. The study demonstrates Goethe's increasing understanding, mastery, and poetological depiction of the artistic imagination in correlation with the faculties of sensual perception and cognition. Key and treasure chest constellations assume generally symbolic and specifically epistemological significance when linked to three principal expressions of the imagination in Goethe's œuvre: While the Faust dramas are characterized by the instrumental 'Mephistophelian fantasy,' the 'therapeutic imagination' clearly dominates both *Wilhelm Meister* novels. The combination of the latter with the 'playfully creative imagination' in two of Goethe's fairy tales initiates an amazing metamorphosis and expansion of the key and treasure chest motif, ingeniously merging meaning and enchantment.

“From Haunting Visions to Revealing (Self-) Reflections: The Goethean Hero between Subject and Object.” In: *Goethe’s Ghosts. Reading and the Persistence of Literature*. Eds. Simon Richter and Richard Block. Rochester, NY: Camden House, 2013, 97–108 – (invited).

The essay juxtaposes four character conflicts taken from Goethe’s dramas – *Faust I*, *Iphigenie auf Tauris*, *Torquato Tasso*, and *Die natürliche Tochter* – and briefly demonstrates how in each case excessive initial subjectivity leading to misjudgments and traumas is conquered by an object-oriented maturation process. Nowhere except in his autobiographies has Goethe provided a more penetrating and comprehensive exploration of the various stages of human and artistic development from subjectivism to the approximation of objective truth than in his Bildungsroman of the poet’s creative imagination, *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*. In conjunction with his concept of “antwortende Gegenbilder” (responding counter-images), the author uses a favorite and central device to depict the various stages of regression or progress during the hero’s journey, namely, the figure of the “Doppelgänger” (double). The essay analyzes three major categories in the novel: the hero’s a) self-created doubles (e.g. Mignon), b) doubles for identification and opposition (e.g. Hamlet, Laertes), and c) complementary doubles (e.g. the members of the Tower Society and Natalie). As the structure of the novel reveals, Natalie plays a very active role, not only as the goal of Wilhelm’s cognitive quest, but as the personification of an aesthetic and social ideal of archetypal nature, the ultimate guide toward the hero’s ability to master his creative imagination.

c) Book Reviews and Reports:

Koch, Franz. *Goethes Gedankenform*. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1967. In: *AUMLA* (Journal of the Australasian Universities Language and Literature Association) 32 (1969), 274f. (book review).

Welz, Dieter. *Der Weimarer "Werther." Studien zur Sinnstruktur der zweiten Fassung des Werther-Romans*. Bonn, 1973. In: *Monatshefte* 68 (1976), 93f. (book review).

“Report by the Task Force on Quality of Education. Submitted to the Council of Faculty Representatives of Washington State Universities and Colleges.” Olympia, 1976 (co-authored with three extra-mural professors).

Baumann, Gerhard. *Sprache und Selbstbegegnung*. München, 1981. In: *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature* XII (1985), 544–546 (book review with Jens Rieckmann).

Bohnen, Klaus, Sven Aage Jørgensen and Fr. Schmöe, eds. *Literatur und Psychoanalyse*. Kopenhagen, München, 1981. In: *Monatshefte* 78 (1986), 89–92 (book review).

Kieß, Martina. *Poesie und Prosa. Die Lieder in "Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahren."* Frankfurt/ Main: Athenäum, 1987. In: *Goethe Yearbook* V (1990), 336–339 (book review).

Fick, Monika. *Das Scheitern des Genius, Mignon und die Symbolik der Liebesgeschichten in "Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahren."* Würzburg: Königshausen und Neumann, 1987. In: *Goethe Yearbook* V (1990), 339–342 (book review).

Mayer, Matthias. *Selbstbewußte Illusion: Selbstreflexion und Legitimation der Dichtung im "Wilhelm Meister."* Heidelberg: Carl Winter, 1989 (Beiträge zur neueren Literaturgeschichte, Folge 3, Bd. 93). In: *Goethe Yearbook* VI (1992), 250–252 (book review).

- Winter, Ingrid. *Wiederholte Spiegelungen: Funktion und Bedeutung der Verseinlage in Goethes "Iphigenie auf Tauris" und "Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre."* New York: Peter Lang, 1988 (Studies in Modern German Literature, vol. 21). In: *Goethe Yearbook VI* (1992), 252–255 (book review).
- Anglet, Andreas. *Der "ewige" Augenblick. Studien zur Struktur und Funktion eines Denkbildes bei Goethe.* Köln, Weimar, Wien: Böhlau, 1991. 477 pp. In: *Goethe Yearbook VIII* (1996), 325–328 (book review).
- Eppers, Arne. *Miteinander im Nebeneinander. Gemeinschaft und Gesellschaft in Goethes Wilhelm Meister-Romanen.* Stauffenberg Discussion. Vol. 21. Tübingen: Stauffenburg, 2003. 226 pp. In: *Seminar 42.2* (2006), 178-180 (book review).
- Mommsen, Katharina. *Goethe und 1001 Nacht* (Mit einem Vorwort von Karl-Josef Kuschel). Bonn: Bernstein, 2006, 333 pp. In: *Goethe Yearbook XVI* (2009): 243–245 (book review).
- Skorniakova, Kristina. *Moderne Transzendenz. Wie Goethes Wilhelm-Meister-Romane Sinn machen.* Leipzig: Leipziger Univ.-Verlag 2010. 423 pp. (Literatur und Kultur. Leipziger Texte. Reihe B: Studien; 3 Zugl. Univ. Leipzig, Diss., 2009). In: *Germanistik 52/3-4* (2011): 765 (book review).

d) Research in Progress

- Artistic Self-Reflection and Cultural Critique in the Literary Art Tales from Goethe to Angela Carter.
- Mythos, Poesis, and Irony in Goethe's *Die Wahlverwandtschaften* and *Wilhelm Meisters Wanderjahre*.

CONFERENCE PAPERS and University Invitations for Presentations (selection; in reverse chronological order)

- “Configurations of Creative Self-Transformation: Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister and His ‘Doubles’.” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. International Conference in Vancouver, BC, Canada. March 17-19, 2011.
- „Torheit, Talent und Kunstgeschick. Goethes ‚wahrhaftes‘ Märchen *Die neue Melusine*.“ Goethe Society of North America. International conference in Pittsburgh covering the period 1805-1815 of Goethe’s life. Nov. 6-9, 2008.
- “The Mephistophelian, the Therapeutic, and the Playfully Creative Imagination in Goethe’s Later Oeuvre.” Paper invited for locally organized conference with international participation. Conference theme: “Inventions of the Imagination: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Imaginary since Romanticism.” Seattle, WA, May 18-20, 2007.
- “Discovering the Artist Novel behind the Bildungsroman.” Paper invited by the conference organizer and delivered at the annual meeting of the Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (Conference Theme: “Borders and Crossings”), Burlington, Vermont, Nov. 4-6, 2004.
- Introduction and discussion of my book, *Imagination und Wahrheit*. Colloquium “New Books in Print,” Invitation by the Simpson Center for the Humanities, UW, on

- October 29, 2004.
- "Paradiesesglück, Trauma und transformatives Erinnern in Goethes Wilhelm-Meister-Romanen." Goethe commemorative sessions at the 30th annual conference of the North Eastern Modern Language Association in Pittsburgh, PA, April 16th, 1999 (invited).
- "Goethe's *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*: An Apprenticeship toward the Mastery of Exactly What?" Special session for the bicentennial of Goethe's novel arranged by the Goethe Society of North America. ASECS Annual Conference, Austin, TX. March 27-31, 1996 (refereed).
- "Goethe's 'Critique of Artistic Imagination' in Theory and Practice. A Poet's Response to Kant?" Pacific Ancient and Modern Lang. Association, Irvine, CA. November 8-10, 1996 (invited).
- "Scheiternde Dichter? Goethes Tasso und Wilhelm Meisters Harfner als Gestaltungen poetologischer Selbstreflexion." Ninth World Congress of the International Association of Germanists (IVG). Vancouver, BC, Canada. August 13-19, 1995.
- "Goethes italienische Lehrjahre und die Initiation des Wilhelm Meister: Wie weise ist die Turmgesellschaft?" January 24, 1992. Germanics Lecture Series. UW.
- "Lustige Person - böser Geist - Dämon der Gewalt: Goethes Mephistopheles und die instrumentelle Imagination." Philological Association of the Pacific Coast, San Francisco. November 4-6, 1994 (invited).
- "Wilhelm 'Meister'!, Hamlet und die diesbezüglichen Metamorphosen Mignons." University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. September 21, 1992
- "Erlebnis und Roman bei Goethe: Zur Frage einer im Biographischen begründeten poetischen Epistemologie." University of Heidelberg, Germany. May 23, 1985.
- "Erlebnis und Roman bei Goethe: Zur Frage einer im Biographischen begründeten poetischen Epistemologie." University of Kiel, Germany. May 10, 1985.
- "Germanistik und die akademische Struktur der Colleges und Universitäten in USA." University of Copenhagen, Denmark. May 6, 1985.
- "Theater und Turm: Goethes künstlerische Wiedergeburt und sein Begriff einer Aristokratie des Geistes." University of Odense, Denmark. May 9, 1985.
- "Theater und Turm: Goethes künstlerische Wiedergeburt und sein Begriff einer Aristokratie des Geistes." University of Oslo, Norway. May 2, 1985.
- "Goethes Italienreise und sein abgebrochener Theaterroman: Neuanfänge in mehrfacher Hinsicht." PAPC, Vancouver, BC, Canada. November 1984 (invited).
- "Mignon's Exequien und die Symbolik der Kunstwerdung bei Goethe." PAPC, San Francisco. November 1980 (invited).
- "Goethe and Gretchens Lied vom Machandelboom: Zur Symbolik des dichterischen Schaffensprozesses." IVG, Basel, Switzerland. August 1980 (refereed).
- "Puppe-Tänzer-Dämon-Genius-Engel: Naturkind, Poesiekind und Kunstwerdung bei Goethe." Modern Language Association of America, San Francisco, CA. December 1979 (invited).
- "Motiv und Symbolik der Heilung des kranken Königsohns in Goethes *Wilhelm Meister*." University of Alberta. February 1977.
- "Mignons nachgetragene Vorgeschichte und das Inzestmotiv. Zur Genese und Symbolik der Goetheschen Geniusgestalten." MLA, New York. December 1970 (refereed).

- "Mignon und Felix in Goethes beiden "Meister"-Romanen: Zum Verhältnis von Natur und Poesie." University of Texas, Austin. February 1969.
- "Goethe's Scientific Morphology in its Relationship to the Literature of his Classical Period." University of Melbourne, Australia. September 1967.
- "Goethe's Scientific Morphology in its Relationship to the Literature of his Classical Period." Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. September 1967.
- "Goethes Mignon: Genese und Romanstruktur." Australasian Universities Modern Language and Literature Association (AUMLA). Sydney, Australia. August 1967 (invited).