Center for Narratological Studies
- the narrative in theory and practice

Narrators, Authors and the Question of Intention

June 22nd-23rd 2007
University of Southern Denmark
Engstien 1
DK-6000 Kolding
Room 3.07

The questions of 'who speaks and from where' are basic to the analysis of the narrative text, but ever since the heyday of the New Criticism raising the question of intention has been considered problematic, even a fallacy. In abandoning any connection between the real author and the narrating instance of the text, different concepts have been suggested: The implied author, the narrator, voice, etc. – but the question of how to deal with authorial and/or textual intentionality persists. Is intention to be understood as a conscious strategy by the author or as a textually founded 'direction' established on the basis of cohesive narrative patterns, giving the text a sense of unity? Does the standard vocabulary of narratology give us adequate tools to account for narrative as an intentional strategy, or do we need to take in thoughts and concepts from cognitive theory, phenomenology and/or performance theory? If intention can be disposed of in the close examination of the narrative text, how then should we approach contextual issues like literary history, cultural and gender studies, etc?

These questions and many more will be raised (and perhaps even answered) at this seminar.

The seminar will be open to everyone interested. Please contact Anita Nell Albertsen (nell@litcul.sdu.dk) for registration.

CFP for graduate students

The seminar does not have a general CFP, but graduate students are encouraged to send in proposals addressing the seminar's topic. The seminar is equivalent to 1.5 ECTS points (if giving a presentation).

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Organized by Center for Narratological Studies, H.C. Andersen Graduate School and Institute of Literature, Media and Cultural Studies, University of Southern Denmark.

Speakers:

Anita Nell Albertsen (University of Southern Denmark, Kolding)
Phenomenology, cognition and the question of intention in anti-narrative fiction

Greger Andersson (University of Örebro)
The narrator in Biblical narrative: A common "persona" for many different voices and intentions

Peer F. Bundgård (University of Aarhus)
Narrative structure is a symbolic form: How to shape meaning and emotion

Marianne Børch (University of Southern Denmark, Odense)
Orality and oralcy: Challenging perspective and intentionality

Ove Christensen (Independent scholar)
Intentionality and genre – The challenge of reading non-fiction

Per Krogh Hansen (University of Southern Denmark, Kolding)
Unreliable narration and the question of authorial intention

David Herman (Ohio State University)
Narrative theory and the intentional stance

Jørgen Holmgaard (University of Aalborg)
Various types of intention

Marianne Horsdal (University of Southern Denmark, Kolding)
Negotiation of meaning – negotiation of intention

Jon Helt Haarder (University of Southern Denmark, Kolding)
The act of writing. Situated and distributed enunciation in performative biografism

Henrik Jørgensen (University of Aarhus)
Aspect and narrative

Anne Marie Mai (University of Southern Denmark, Kolding)
Writing history of literature and the question of intention

Henrik Schärfe (Aalborg University)
Thirdness in narrative

Wolf Schmid (University of Hamburg)
The abstract author and his intention

Lars-Åke Skalin (University of Örebro)
Author's Intention - narrator's intention: On the relation between poetics and narrative structure