

German-Canadian Centre • North American Studies Program  
Department of English, American and Celtic Studies • University of Bonn

## Organic Material: the Many Threads of Canadian Book History

Saturday, 20 June 2009 • 9:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. • Uni-Club • Konviktstraße 9 • 53113 Bonn

To book historians, the book is not a mere object but organic material, germinating reciprocal relationships between authors and readers, editors and publishers, marketers and critics. The international symposium facilitates debate and discussion about the nature of book history, a discipline that weaves together social history, cultural studies, descriptive bibliography, and literary analysis. Our debates address such topics as Canadian publishing practices of large nationalist to small regional presses, international readership communities, manipulation of textual graphics, and genre and literary history. The presenters' expertise stems from their diverse roles in the collaborative process of book production and reception, as authors, editors, reviewers, and critics.

### Program

- 9:30-10:00 **Sabine Sielke** (Director, German-Canadian Centre, University of Bonn) and **Katherine Verhagen** (Visiting Lecturer in Canadian Studies, University of Bonn)  
Welcome and Introduction
- 10:00-11:30 **David Staines** (Department of English, University of Ottawa)  
“The *New Canadian Library*: 52 Years On”
- 11:30-12:00 Coffee Break
- 12:00-1:30 **Danielle Fuller** (Director, Regional Centre for Canadian Studies, University of Birmingham)  
“Beyond the Book: Contemporary Cultures of Reading in Britain, America, and Canada”
- Katherine Verhagen** (North American Studies Program)  
“White Space, Black Text: ‘Graphic’ African-Canadian Poetry”
- 1:30-2:30 Lunch Break
- 2:30-4:00 **George Elliott Clarke** (E. J. Pratt Professor of Canadian Literature, University of Toronto)  
“In Black Ink, Not Red: The Church Narrative. Introducing a Distinct Genre in African-Canadian Literature”
- 4:00-4:30 Coffee Break
- 4:30-5:30 “The Changing Needs of the Canadian Market”  
Panel Discussion with **David Staines**, **George Elliott Clarke**, and **Danielle Fuller**  
Moderators: **Sabine Sielke** and **Katherine Verhagen**
- 5:30-6:30 **George Elliott Clarke**  
Reads from his poetry and fiction

