



Lecture

Poetik der Relationalität

Olivia Wenzels *1000 Serpentinaen Angst*
als Bordertextur

Cécile Chamayou-Kuhn (Universität
Lothringen) & Lena Wetenkamp (KU Leuven)

The lecture demonstrates the analytical potential of the concept of bordertexture for examining complex narrative structures, using Olivia Wenzel's novel "1000 Serpentinaen Angst" (2020) as an example. The focus lies on the interconnection of uncertainty, relationality, and affectivity as aesthetic strategies within a framework of relational aesthetics. The analysis explores intradiegetic border experiences, co-presence, and interactional dynamics through which processes of bordering, disorientation, and affective instability become manifest. It is argued that these strategies generate a poetics of relationality that constitutes the text as a bordertexture.

Lena Wetenkamp has been Professor of Modern German Literature at KU Leuven (Belgium) since September 2025. Previously, she was Junior Professor at the University of Trier. She studied German Studies, Journalism, and Cultural Anthropology in Mainz and Lisbon. In 2017, she earned her PhD at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz with the dissertation "Europa erzählt, verortet, erinnert. Europa-Diskurse in der deutschsprachigen Gegenwartsliteratur". She has been a visiting lecturer in Bydgoszcz (Poland), Sassari (Italy), Milan (Italy), and Metz (France).

Cécile Chamayou-Kuhn is a Maîtresse de conférences in German Studies at the University of Lorraine. She studied Comparative Literature, German, and Romance Studies at the University of Tübingen and earned her PhD in German Studies at the Sorbonne Nouvelle University. She is a member of the advisory board of the cross-border doctoral school LOGOS and of the CIERA steering committee. Her research focuses on contemporary literature and theatre, gender studies, border studies, interculturality, crises, and transitions.

8 December 2025
5:00 p.m. (CET)
online (Teams)

Contact and access link
<http://atelier.bordertextures.org>

The lecture will be in German.

The lecture series "Atelier Bordertextures" is open to the public and welcomes students, researchers, and all interested members of the public.

Organized by the interuniversity working group "Bordertextures" within the UniGR-Center for Border Studies, an Interdisciplinary Center of Expertise of the University of the Greater Region.

