

Literarische Weltschöpfungen / Literary Worldbuilding

14. Tolkien Seminar / 14th Tolkien Conference

Deutsche Tolkien Gesellschaft e. V.

Call for Papers

Universität Augsburg University

27.-29. Oktober 2017 / 27 to 29 October 2017

and

Walking Tree Publishers Volume 'Literary Worldbuilding'

Mark J. P. Wolf, in his *Building Imaginary Worlds: The Theory and History of Subcreation* (Routledge, 2012), which constitutes the to date most comprehensive study on the topic, refers repeatedly to Tolkien's achievement as both author and theorist. Although Tolkien's literary cosmos may not be the most elaborate of the imaginary worlds in existence, it is certainly the most influential. The posthumous editorial work of Tolkien's son Christopher has also shown that Arda remains unrivalled in its consistency and complexity. Additionally, the re-publication of Tolkien's Andrew Lang lecture 'On Fairy-stories' (originally delivered 1939) and its interpretation within the discourse of literary fantasy has further strengthened his position as one of the foremost proponents of literary worldbuilding or, as he himself preferred to call it, (literary) subcreation.

While we expect Tolkien's theoretical concepts as well as his literary work to play an important role in this conference, we would also welcome contributions on other 'literary worldbuilders' such as George R.R. Martin, Mervyn Peake, Robert Howard or H. P. Lovecraft (to name only a few), whose imaginary worlds have attracted readers and scholars alike.

Contributors may choose between submission of their proposal for conference participation and subsequent publication as part of the proceedings in the bilingual (English and German) yearbook *Hither Shore*, or submission of their proposal for publication (with or without conference participation) in the English-only volume *Tolkien and Literary Worldbuilding* (to appear in the Cormarë Series of Walking Tree Publishers). The conference and the *Hither Shore* volume welcome contributions to other authors than J.R.R. Tolkien, yet essays for the Walking Tree volume must have at least some connections to Tolkien or the Inklings.

The Augsburg University is hosting the 14th Seminar of the Deutsche Tolkien Gesellschaft (DTG) from 27 to 29 October 2017. The seminar is supported by Walking Tree Publishers.

Please send a short abstract of your paper together with a short bio-sketch (both together no longer than one page) till 30 March 2017 to
Thomas Fornet-Ponse: hither-shore@tolkiengesellschaft.de.