



Call for Papers

Multimedia Metamorphoses

The Productive Reception of the Inklings in the 21st Century

A Symposium of the German Inklings Society

1-3 October 2010

Nürnberg, Caritas-Pirckheimer-Haus

The observation that many works of Inklings authors are today extremely successful not only as books but also in other media may at first sight seem banal: the monumental film version of *The Lord of the Rings* by Peter Jackson or the more recent attempt to repeat this box-office success with film versions of the *Narnia* books spring all too readily into mind. But such super-events are really only the tip of an iceberg which so far has hardly been noticed by the academic world. Beyond those cinematic lighthouse projects, even beyond Tolkien, who is often regarded as the quintessential Inklings, there is a nearly impenetrable hypertextual jungle which has as yet neither been chartered nor understood in its cultural implications.

Which of the many film versions are artistically convincing, and what exactly is implied in such a verdict? Is there such a thing as a 'fantasy scene', and if yes, what role do the Inklings authors play there? In what sense do members of this scene appear not only as consumers but also as creators? What, in this context, is the role of literary pastiches and parodies – both conventionally published and in the form of internet fan fiction? What activities of the fantasy scene are to be observed in the field of the arts and of music? Why is it that Tolkien's fictional world has had such a decisive influence on the culture of role-playing games? These and similar questions are to be pursued in Nürnberg. The conference is supported by the English Department of the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg; co-operations with other institutions are in preparation.

The planning committee will receive proposals for contributions in German or in English. Please send a short abstract of your paper before 1 May, 2010

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