

Helbig-Mischewski Penis w opalach

Abstract

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The Penis in Pickle. The Experience of Castration and Power Regaining Strategies in Literature of Some Polish Migrants in Germany

The author takes a closer look at the artistic activity of Leszek Oświęcimski and Wojciech Stamm, Polish authors living in Germany and associated with a Berlin-based Polish Failures' Club, and of non-associated writers Krzysztof Niewrzęda and Dariusz Muszer, from the standpoint of intercultural literary studies as developed in Germany by Michael Hofmann, among others. Ms. Helbig-Mischewski is primarily interested in a thread of double humiliation (in its national aspect – i.e. being a Pole, and in its gender aspect – i.e. being a male), that is, a crisis of national and sexual identity as it is recorded in literature, recurring through prose and lyric pieces written by male migrants, particularly, through its 'failure' current. The focus is on strategies of dealing in one's own 'otherness', 'inferiority' in confrontation with an 'alien' culture (be it western-European, German, or feminist); strategies of regaining dignity and destabilising a culture of the majority through contributing one's own values to it in a sovereign manner, deconstructing the stereotypes and applying a parodist/grotesque approach.

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