

New Hybridities: Societies and Cultures in Transition

Frank Heidemann / Alfonso de Toro (Eds.)



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The thirteen essays were presented at the international conference *New Hybridities*, held in summer 2004 in a South German monastery, Kloster Seeon, organized by Frank Heidemann, director of the *Graduiertenkolleg "Postcolonial Studies"* at the University of Munich in collaboration with *Alfonso de Toro*, director of the Research Centre of Ibero-American Studies at the University of Leipzig and with the support of the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*.

The thirteen papers in this volume take up these questions, focusing on hybridities in new postcolonial contexts or in newly formed social arenas. They emphasize political dimensions of cultural processes in recognition of the fact that cultures never were or are monolithic but are always products of their own complex histories.

The volume reflects a broad panorama of postcolonial debate about hybridity and its implications in different fields such as media, internet, film, photography, literature, languages, body, sexuality, migration, politics of nation and identity. The papers display a awareness of theory and of the interaction between theoretical reflection about hybridity and interpretation of different objects; and they focus different territories: Asia, Japan, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, India, Africa, the USA and Latin America. Among the conceptual merits of the conference were its transdisciplinarity, its transcultural approach, and its inspiring consideration of German-Turkish and Hispanic writers, performers and scholars not often dealt with in connection with postcolonialism and post-modernism. In this sense, the volume is an important, intriguing supplement to the contemporary debate in those fields.

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