The Bavarian American Academy promotes and coordinates the interdisciplinary cooperation of scholars in the social and cultural sciences in the widest sense, specializing in aspects of North American culture, society, politics and economics in their hemispheric and global contexts.

**Academy Conference 2009**

**Visual Cultures - Transatlantic Perspectives**

The general significance of the “visual turn” indicates the innovative potential of visual culture studies as a field encouraging interdisciplinary and transnational approaches. The 2009 conference addresses processes of visualizing legitimacy and authority, the analysis and interpretation of visual images and representations, and the significance of visual sites of memory in a comparatist, transatlantic perspective.

Contributors will focus on the creation of political iconographies, on the contested relationship between visuality and the discourse of racial and ethnic difference, on images of gender and sexuality in experimental cinema and comic subculture, on the role of visual representation in journalism, and discuss the importance of visual representations in the construction of an American historical memory.

These interdisciplinary perspectives serve to understand complex concepts. Visual literacy allows to decode not only films and photographs, but also memorials, landscapes and urban spaces.

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No Conference Fee
Registration Requested

**Bayerische Amerika-Akademie**

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The conference will take place at the Amerika Haus, Karolinenplatz 3, in the center of Munich.

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The organizers wish to thank the following institutions for their support:

- Bayerisch-Amerikanisches Zentrum im Amerika Haus e.V.
- U.S. Consulate General, Munich
THURSDAY, 2 JULY

CONFERENCE OPENING
18.15 WELCOME
Klaus Benesch
Director Bavarian American Academy
Representatives of
U.S. Consulate General, Munich
Ministry of Sciences, Research, and the Arts
Awards Ceremony
2009 BAA Dissertation Award

19.00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Martin Jay (University of California, Berkeley)
Scopic Regimes Revisited

19.50 RECEPTION

FRIDAY, 3 JULY

11.30 Panel II
Visual Culture and the Representation of Race and Ethnicity
Chair: Christof Decker (University of Munich)
Shawn Michelle Smith (School of Art Institute of Chicago): Imag(in)ing Race and Nation: Augustus Washington and John Brown
Astrid Böger (University of Hamburg): Performances of Racial and Ethnic Otherness at the early American World’s Fairs

13.00 Lunch Break

15.00 Panel III
Gender and Sexuality in Post/Modern Image Culture
Chair: Antje Kley (University of Erlangen-Nuremburg)
Robin Blaetz (Mount Holyoke College): Home Movies: Framing the Domestic Sphere in Experimental Cinema
Klaus Theweleit (University of Freiburg): San Francisco Underground Comix: ‘America’s only Real Revolution in the 20th Century’

16.30 Coffee Break

17.00 Panel IV
Visuality and the News
Chair: Petra Dorsch-Jungsberger (University of Munich)
Michael S. Griffin (Macalester College): Images from Nowhere: Visuality and News in 21st Century Media
Caja Thimm (University of Bonn): Visual Dynamics in Politics - The US Election 2008

18.45 BAA MEMBERS’MEETING (Members only!)
Annual Meeting of the Bavarian American Academy