

CURRENT ISSUES
IN NORTH AMERICAN AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Literature in Motion: Black Authors and the Movies

Prof. Sarah Gleeson-White
University of Sydney

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The book is “almost everywhere,” lamented Henry James in 1899. Advancements in transport as well as communications and printing technologies effected an explosion of print which indeed seemed to transform US literary culture during the early decades of the 20th century. Strikingly absent from the scholarship is the significant contribution of motion pictures to these cultural shifts. In her paper, Prof. Gleeson-White sketches the argument of her new book *Silent Film and the Formations of US Literary Culture: Literature in Motion* and shows how motion pictures provided Black authors a means to navigate the gnarly terrain of authorship during the Jim Crow era.

Thursday
July 4, 2024
2:00 c.t.-4:00 pm

Room 8, IAAK,
Rabinstraße 8
53111 Bonn

Prof. Sarah Gleeson-White is Associate Professor in English at the University of Sydney and works on early-twentieth-century US literature and film. After publishing, most recently, the book-length study *Silent Film and the Formations of US Literary Culture: Literature in Motion* (Oxford UP 2024), her new project focuses on Wallace Thurman and interwar Black literary culture.

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