

The Ian Fletcher Memorial Lecture



Alexander Regier

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‘Blake, Hamann, and the Polyglot Moravians: Unexpected Connections in 1750s London’

Thurs., **Apr. 28**, 2016
5:30 p.m.

University Club (Heritage
Room) Arizona State University,
Tempe campus

Alexander Regier discusses a number of little-known but critically important historical and theoretical connections between the English poet William Blake, the German thinker Johann Georg Hamann, and the congregation of the nonconformist Moravian church in London. The wider relevance of these connections is that all three form part of an important Anglo-German constellation of thinkers and writers that flourished well before the 1790s. The intellectual and textual exchange between Blake, Hamann and the Moravians actively points towards a need to reconfigure this period in literary history in the light of a multilingual study of the period.

Regier is editor of the scholarly journal *SEL: Studies in English Literature 1500–1900*. He is the author of *Fracture and Fragmentation in British Romanticism* (Cambridge University Press, 2010), the co-editor of *Wordsworth's Poetic Theory* (Palgrave, 2010) and has edited special journal issues on “Mobility” and “Genealogies.” He is currently working on a comparative study of Anglo-German constellations in pre-1790s Britain.

