

Bryan Klausmeyer, M.A.

B.A. in History and German Studies, University of Michigan (2009); M.A. in German Literature, Johns Hopkins University (2012); since 2012, Ph.D. Candidate in German Literature, Johns Hopkins University; Visiting Doctoral Student at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (2013) and the Friedrich-Schlegel-Graduiertenschule, FU Berlin (2013–14).

Dissertation Project:

“Small Forms: Poetics of the Miniature around 1800” (working title)

This project examines the emergence of epigrammatic or “small” forms of writing around 1800, encompassing such works in which continual textual compression (*Verdichtung*) furnishes potentially endless discursive productivity. With particular focus on the works of G. Chr. Lichtenberg, Jean Paul, Novalis, Friedrich Schlegel and Goethe, it seeks to analyze the production of small forms as rooted in the heterogeneous writing practices of the above-mentioned authors, as well as the manner in which their deployment of numerous historically specific discourses (e.g., philology, natural science, cosmology) and mediums (e.g., encyclopedias, notebooks, “miscellany,” excerpts, addenda, marginalia, as well as glossaries and indexes) inaugurates in different ways the epistemological and aesthetic conventions of modernity. In such works knowledge is organized in constellations whose fragmentary and ephemeral structure relates back to the very fragmentariness of knowledge production and organization which underly them, as well as to the diffuse and non-linear procedures of reading they demand.

Advisers:

Prof. Dr. Andrea Krauß, Johns Hopkins University

Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Strowick, Johns Hopkins University

Contact:

bryklaus [at] jhu.edu