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| Veranstalter | Prof. Dr. Hans-Peter Rodenberg |
| Thema | American Poetry: Singers and Songwriters [AA-A3, ENG-7/a, AA11, LAA10, LAA13, AA-W, AA-WB] |
| Art der Veranstaltung | Seminar II (Sem. Ib) |
| Veranstaltungsnummer | 53-561 |
| Zeit | Di 12-14 |
| Raum | Phil 1269 |
| Beginn | 5. April 2016 |



Course description

„Singer-songwriters“ are usually defined as artists in popular music who write, compose and perform their own lyrics and melodies, with emphasis on the song rather than on the performance. Historically this concept can be traced back to the ancient bardic tradition of the ballads sung at medieval courts or in folk music.

In North America the phenomenon of the singer-songwriter emerged from the blues and folk music tradition of the 1920s and 1930s. However, it was during the 1960s and 1970s that it came into full bloom. Artists such as Bob Dylan, Johnny Cash, Paul Simon, Neil Young, James Taylor, Joan Baez, Carly Simon, Joni Mitchell, Emmylou Harris and many others developed their distinctive styles with their often highly personal and introspective point of view, and even rock musicians like Bruce Springsteen or Tom Petty can be subsumed under the term. With the increasing diversification of popular music into heavy metal, mainstream rock, hip hop and a multiplicity of other forms the term has been mainly applied to predominantly female U.S. artists such as Shania Twain, Sheryl Crow, Melissa Etheridge, Tori Amos or Canadian singer-songwriter Alanis Morissette.

Focusing on Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen, the seminar will trace the development of singer-songwriting from the beginnings to the present when the social media provide a platform for individual self-expression.

Obligatory Reading:

Credit requirements: regular attendance, short presentation in class, written paper

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| Sprechstunde in der Vorlesungszeit: | |
| Sprechstunde in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit: | 24.2.16, 15-16 in Phil 1155 |