

List of abbreviations

Introduction

1. Neo-Victorian Fiction
2. A.S. Byatt: A Critic and a Storyteller
3. Hayden White and Frank Ankersmit: Narrativism, Historical Representation and Historical Experience
4. The Change from Postmodern Historical Uncertainty Towards Other Forms of Mediating the Past (Poetry, Trauma, Experience)
5. The Composition of the Book

Chapter 1: The Narrative Logic of *Possession* and *The Biographer's Tale*

1. Narration in History and Fiction
2. History as a Narrative Substance
 - 2.1. The Lack of Certainty about Past Events
 - 2.2. Subjectivity, or the Myth of Objectivity
 - 2.3. Lacunae

Chapter 2: Historical Representation I: Metaphors of a Historian in Byatt's Neo-Victorian Fiction

1. Historical Representation as a Metaphor
2. Metaphors of a Historian
 - 2.1. The Historian as a Detective: White's Theory of Discovery
 - 2.2. Ghostwriting: The Historian as a Ventriloquist and a Spiritualist

Chapter 3: Historical Representation II: Metaphors of History and the Past in Byatt's Neo-Victorian Fiction

1. The Concept of Time
 - 1.1. The Concept of Cyclical History in *Possession*
 - 1.2. The Ages of Man in *The Children's Book*
 - 1.3. Intertextuality
2. History as a Spatial Concept
 - 2.1. History as Theatre
 - 2.1.1. The Greek Chorus as a Metaphor for the Victorian Narration Chapters in *Possession*
 - 2.1.2. *The Children's Book*: Puppets in the Hands of History
 - 2.2. History as a Container: Wunderkammer, Museum, Exhibition

Chapter 4: Communicative and Cultural Memory in Byatt's Neo-Victorian Fiction

1. Memory, Testimony and Commemoration
2. Cultural Memory
3. Communicative Memory
 - 3.1. Photographs

Chapter 5: Historical Experience: A Truce between History and Literature

1. From Language to Experience
2. Byatt's Neo-Victorian Fiction as Alternative History
3. Historical Experience
4. Sublime Experience
5. Trauma

Conclusion

Works cited