



THE OXFORD-BERLIN LECTURES
IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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Excavations in Homer
Speculative Archaeologies in
Alice Oswald's and Barbara Köhler's
Responses to the *Iliad* and the
Odyssey

- ▶ **Monday, 10 December 2018, 17:00 hours**
- ▶ **Room 105, Centre for British Studies
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Mohrenstr. 60, 1st floor, 10117 Berlin**



For last-minute changes please
▶ see our website www.gbz.hu-berlin.de
▶ or call: (030) 2093 99040

The talk examines two recent responses to Homeric epic: British poet Alice Oswald's *Memorial* (2011), which re-works material from the *Iliad*, and German poet Barbara Köhler's poem-cycle *Niemands Frau* (2007) which responds to the *Odyssey*. What links these two very different revisitings of Homer's work is a common purpose, what Professor Paul calls the poets' 'speculative archaeologies'. Both poets remove layers formed by habituated readings. They consider the Homeric poem's roots in the oral tradition. They also contemplate afresh aspects of it which have become obscured under the tendentious gaze of thousands of years of male-oriented readings.

These lectures are a co-operation between the Centre for British Studies and TORCH (The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities).

All are welcome.

