Experience Imagination: Imagine Europe

Dr. Irma Ratiani, Tbilisi State University, Republic of Georgia
Thursday, February 22
9:30 a.m., PSFA 318

Georgian Literature: In and Out of West European Culture
Dr. Ratiani will discuss the role of Georgia in Europe. Some topics include: Georgia as a crossroad of Eastern Europe and Western Asia, the evolution of Georgian literature and its role in global literary traditions, as well as the impact of the rise and fall of the Soviet Union on Georgian cultural and literary traditions.

Author Jaroslav Kalfar
Thursday, March 8
12:30 p.m., Aztec Student Union Theatre

Jaroslav Kalfar will discuss his 2017 novel “Spaceman of Bohemia.” Kalfar, who grew up in the Czech Republic, writes with great insight about the sensibilities of a small nation in an increasingly integrated Europe.

New York Times Book Review Editors’ Choice
Best New Fiction -- Wall Street Journal
New Books We Recommend -- New York Times

German Film Showcase
Wednesday, March 14
4 p.m., Storm Hall 127

Broken Glass Park (Scherbenpark) tells the story of Sasha, a gifted Russian immigrant in the southern German city of Stuttgart. Sasha leaves her rough neighborhood for an educated middle-class home, only to find that privilege does not solve all problems, and commonalities and divides are often more complex than they appear at first glance.
(Germany, 2013)
Director: Bettina Blümner
In German and Russian with English subtitles.

Dr. Teresa Fiore, Montclair State University, New Jersey
Respondent: Dr. Norma Bouchard, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, SDSU
Monday, April 2
4 pm, Storm Hall 113

Pre-occupied Spaces: Remapping Italian Transnational Migrations and Culture in Europe, Africa and the Americas
Dr. Fiore understands Italy as a unique laboratory to rethink national belonging and participation at large in our era of massive demographic mobility. She analyzes Italy’s formation and development on a transnational map that spans the Mediterranean and the Americas through the interrogation of cultural texts addressing travel and living spaces.
Dr. Bouchard will respond to Dr. Fiore’s lecture.

Dr. Maria Mayr, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada
Thursday, April 19
12:30 p.m., Gold Auditorium, Shiley BioScience Center

Literature in the Age of European Integration
As recent events such as Brexit and the general rise of nationalism in many European countries show, Europe is dealing with an integration crisis. In part, European integration is based on constructing shared European memories on which to build a common identity. Dr. Mayr will discuss the role of literature in contributing to the diversity of European memory and the imagination of Europe’s future.

All events are free and open to the public.