

Cambridge University Press

0521824060 - Women Writers and National Identity: Bachmann, Duden, Özdamar

Stephanie Bird

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

WOMEN WRITERS AND NATIONAL IDENTITY

Bachmann, Duden, Özdamar

In *Women Writers and National Identity*, Stephanie Bird offers a detailed analysis of the twin themes of female identity and national identity in the works of three major twentieth-century German-language women writers. Bird argues for the importance of an understanding of ambiguity, tension and contradiction in the fictional narratives of Ingeborg Bachmann, Anne Duden and Emine Özdamar. She aims to demonstrate how ambiguity is itself central to the development of an understanding of identity and that literary texts are uniquely able to point to the ethical importance of ambiguity through their stylistic complexity. Bird gives close readings of the three writers and draws on feminist theory and psychoanalysis to elucidate the complex nature of individual identity. This book will be of interest to literary and women's studies scholars as well as Germanists.

STEPHANIE BIRD is Lecturer in German at University College London. She is the author of *Recasting Historical Women* (1998) and of articles in journals, including *MLR*, *Austrian Studies* and *FMLS*.

Cambridge University Press

0521824060 - Women Writers and National Identity: Bachmann, Duden, Ozdamar

Stephanie Bird

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE STUDIES IN GERMAN

General editors

H. B. Nisbet, University of Cambridge

Martin Swales, University of London

Advisory editor

Theodore J. Ziolkowski, Princeton University

Also in the series

J. P. STERN: *The Dear Purchase: A Theme in German Modernism*

SEÁN ALLAN: *The Plays of Heinrich von Kleist: Ideals and Illusions*

W. E. YATES: *Theatre in Vienna: A Critical History, 1776–1995*

MICHAEL MINDEN: *The German 'Bildungsroman'
Incest and Inheritance*

TODD KONTJE: *Women, the Novel, and the German Nation 1771–1871
Domestic Fiction in the Fatherland*

STEPHEN BROCKMANN: *Literature and German Reunification*

JUDITH RYAN: *Rilke, Modernism and Poetic Tradition*

GRAHAM FRANKLAND: *Freud's Literary Culture*

RONALD SPIERS: *Brecht's Poetry of Political Exile*

NICHOLAS SAUL: *Philosophy and German Literature, 1700–1990*

Cambridge University Press

0521824060 - Women Writers and National Identity: Bachmann, Duden, Özdamar

Stephanie Bird

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

WOMEN WRITERS AND NATIONAL IDENTITY

Bachmann, Duden, Özdamar

STEPHANIE BIRD

University College London



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

0521824060 - Women Writers and National Identity: Bachmann, Duden, Özdamar

Stephanie Bird

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge, CB2 2RU, UK

40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain

Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa

<http://www.cambridge.org>

© Stephanie Bird 2003

This book is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without
the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2003

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

Typeface Adobe Garamond 11/12.5 pt. *System* L^AT_EX 2_ε [TB]*A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library**Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data*

Bird, Stephanie.

Women writers and national identity: Bachmann, Duden, Özdamar / by Stephanie Bird.

p. cm. – (Cambridge studies in German)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0 521 82406 0

1. German literature – Women authors – History and criticism.
2. Identity (Psychology) in literature.
3. Bachmann, Ingeborg, 1926–1973 – Criticism and interpretation.
4. Duden, Anne, 1942 – Criticism and interpretation.
5. Özdamar, Emine Sevgi, 1946 – Criticism and interpretation.

I. Title. II. Series.
PT167.B57 2003 833/.91409353 – dc21 2003043581

ISBN 0 521 82406 0 hardback

Cambridge University Press

0521824060 - Women Writers and National Identity: Bachmann, Duden, Ozdamar

Stephanie Bird

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

For my mother

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>page</i> x
Introduction	I
PART I INGEBOURG BACHMANN: THE <i>TODESARTEN</i> PROSE	
1 Franza and the Righteous Servant	13
2 On sharks and shame	39
3 <i>Malina</i> : experience and feminism	64
PART II ANNE DUDEN: THE SUFFERING BODY	
4 The short stories. Thoughts on the body and ethics	95
5 Desire and complicity in <i>Das Judasschaf</i>	124
PART III EMINE ÖZDAMAR: PERFORMANCE AND METAPHOR	
6 Tradition out of context	157
7 Metaphor's creative spark	184
Conclusion: das war es	217
<i>Notes</i>	220
<i>Bibliography</i>	235
<i>Index</i>	243

Cambridge University Press

0521824060 - Women Writers and National Identity: Bachmann, Duden, Ozdamar

Stephanie Bird

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to many people who in various ways and at different stages helped me with this project, especially Timothy McFarland, Judith Beniston, Mark Hewitson, Mererid Puw Davies, Anthony Bird, Sabine Bird-Santer and Adil Shamky. I would like to thank the manuscript readers, in particular my British reader, for their critical engagement with the text. I owe Matthew Fox special thanks for his advice and support.