

# WORLD LITERATURE AS TRANSLATIONAL MULTIPLICITY: **Sabahattin Ali's 'Comprehensive Germanistan Travelogue' (1929)** Kristin Dickinson (University of Michigan)

Monday, March 30th | 5-7 PM | Toy Lounge  
(Dey Hall)



This event is sponsored by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the Dept. of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures, Romance Studies, the Center for European Studies, the Center for Global Initiatives and the UNC Translation Collective.



"Learning to Skate in the Late Ottoman Empire"

In 1929, while studying abroad in Germany, modernist Turkish author Sabahattin Ali wrote a 10-page letter home to his friends in Turkey which was meant to be a pseudo-historical travelogue. In her talk, Kristin Dickinson argues Ali's Ottoman Turkish exposed Potsdam as a site of translation for his modernist imagination. Translation thus emerges as a productively unsettling, omnidirectional movement that underscores the hybridity of Germanness and Turkishness alike. Ali's Travelogue also provides a prescient alternative to conceptualizations of world literature that would emerge in Turkey in the following decade.