

## Abstract

This study focuses on the continuity in the writing of the German author Peter Schneider. This is accomplished through a series of close readings of Schneider's prose, where the main emphasis has been placed on character and space portrayal and their mutual relation to each other. Using the texts *Lenz* and *...schon bist du ein Verfassungsfeind*, chapters 2 and 3 discuss the characters' voyeuristic attitude toward reality and their movements in space between a position of staying (the staying) and a position of leaving (the leaving), as well as their vertical movements. In chapter 4, the analysis of *Die Wette* discusses how these two spatial categories (i.e. the staying and the leaving) fail to establish an understanding of reality, and instead lead to a circular structure. Central to the discussion of Schneider's narrative strategies are the categories variation and mirroring. In chapter 5, the analysis of *Der Mauerspringer* develops the discussion of the categories variation and mirroring further, and introduces the category doubling. Chapters 6–8, finally, investigate to what extent the protagonists succeed in finding a spatial position between the staying and the leaving. In these chapters as well, the discussion is concentrated on the categories variation, mirroring and doubling.

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