



**German
Historical
Institute
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in co-operation with the

**MODERN GERMAN HISTORY SEMINAR
INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

STEFANIE MICHELS (Hamburg)

will speak on

Connected Families: West Africa and Southern Germany, 1891–1896

at the German Historical Institute, Conference Room

on Thursday, 28 February 2019, at 5.30 p.m.

Taking the example of Tube Meetom and Rudolf Duala Manga Bell, two boys from elite families of Duala, Cameroon, living with a petty bourgeois German family, this lecture discusses child circulation practices of the Atlantic contact zone in relation to notions of ‘family’ and home-making. On the level of colonial control the ambivalent practices of state control through the male custodian and the agency of the African father by means of financial and social interaction are highlighted. On the affective level an array of relations between extended families points to bonds not governed by the logic of ‘race’ and coloniality. Although in the end the German colonial authorities forcefully limited the ambitions of the two boys by exiling one and executing the other, their life stories advanced African independence movements in the 1930s.

Stefanie Michels focuses on German colonial and African history. She teaches at the University of Hamburg and has recently co-edited *Global Photographies* (2018) and *Koloniale Verbindungen—Transkulturelle Erinnerungstopographien: Rheinland und Grasland, Kamerun* (forthcoming).

Please check for any last minute changes on 020 7309 2050 (tel.) or visit: <http://www.ghil.ac.uk>

This lecture will be held at 5.30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the German Historical Institute, 17 Bloomsbury Square, LONDON WC1A 2NJ.

Tea is served from 5.00 p.m. in the Common Room, and wine is available afterwards.

Guided tours of the Library take place one hour before the lecture.