



The Berlin Review of Books @ Summerhall Lectures

Friday, 10 August 2012, 7pm

Dr Frank Lorenz Müller (St. Andrews)

Full title:

The Prince Consort Revived - The People's Kaiser - The Prussian Hero: Myth-Making and Emperor Frederick III

Short title:

**Prince Consort - Kaiser - Hero?
Mythmaking and Emperor Frederick III**

Full abstract (100 words):

The memory of German Emperor Frederick III (1831-1888), the famously liberal son-in-law of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, has long been dominated by a wistful notion of 'if only.' – *If only* he had lived longer, Germany would have turned into a kindly and anglophile Dr Jekyll instead of the illiberal, militarist and aggressive Mr Hyde whose impact on the 20th century was so very calamitous. Challenging this view, this lecture reconstructs the divergent popular images of Frederick in Imperial Germany and points to important aspects of Frederick's political beliefs which locate him firmly within the context of the Hohenzollern monarchy.

Short abstract (50 words):

Had Frederick III (1831-1888), the famous German Emperor and Anglophile, lived into his eighties, rather than dying prematurely at age 57, would 20th-century European history have taken a different, more benign, turn? This lecture explores the divergent popular images of Frederick III and his proper place in the history books.

About the speaker: Frank Lorenz Müller is Senior Lecturer in the School of History at the University of St. Andrews. He is the author of *Our Fritz: Emperor Frederick III and the Political Culture of Imperial Germany* (Harvard University Press 2011).