

James Green

PhD title Nietzsche and Schopenhauer's Reception of the Sturm und Drang

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I graduated from Birmingham in 2005 in German Studies and Italian Studies (Joint Honours). During my undergraduate study I developed a strong interest in German literature, with a particular emphasis on Goethe. This was reflected in my choice of topic for my MPhil thesis, also completed at Birmingham, which examined the changing attitudes to romanticism and pragmatism during the Sturm und Drang period of the late eighteenth century, in which Goethe was a key player. In addition to Goethe's Egmont, Götz von Berlichingen and Torquato Tasso, I also wrote on works by Schiller and Klinger.

My PhD research, begun in October 2009, is in some respects an expansion, chronologically and thematically, of my Master's thesis. It investigates the reception of the Sturm und Drang and Goethe by Schopenhauer and Nietzsche and seeks to determine the extent to which the fundamental pessimism of these two nineteenth-century thinkers was influenced or anticipated by modes of thought in Sturm und Drang writing.

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