

## **Wolfgang Müller-Funk**

### **“Murder and Monotheism: A Detective Story in Close Reading”**

What I will offer, is a close reading of Freud's "Der Mann Moses", one of the strangest narratives I have ever read in my life. I shall use a narratological approach to analyse Freud's text as a broken heroic narrative. Why it is broken? And what does it mean with regard to Freud's critic on monotheism? And: Is there any alternative to the monotheism of Godfather?

Narratives have always a double time-structure. There is the time of the story as such and there is the time of the story-telling. Why did Freud tell this story in this historical moment? And inasmuch is there a parallel between Moses, and Freud, between religion and psychoanalysis? Freud believed, that Moses was killed by his people, because the burden of monotheism was too big. Maybe Freud believed at the end of his life, that also the burden of psychoanalysis was too heavy for his contemporaries.

## **Wolfgang Müller-Funk**

Austrian, born in Bremen (Germany) in 1952, since 1978 married with the artist Sabine Müller-Funk, two daughters (in study, one in UK, one in Austria). 1981-1990 External Lecturer at the Univ. of Munich, 1984-1994 Director of the Waldviertel-Akademie, Austria, since 1993 Dozent (Ass. Prof.) at the Univ. of Vienna and Klagenfurt. 1995 External faculty member at the European Centre, Vienna. 1999-2002 Prof. for German Cultural Studies at the Univ. of Birmingham. 2002 Visiting Professor at the Universities in Vienna, Innsbruck and Klagenfurt, 2003 Visiting Professor at the Univ. of Szeged (Hungary), 2003 at the Hochschule für Fernsehen und Film, Munich (2004), at the Nehru Univ., New Delhi and the Univ. of Mumbai 2005 and at the Univ. of Zagreb, 2007. 2008 Visiting Professor at the Univ. Bratislava and Senior Research Fellow at the University Gießen 2009.