



## **BESONDERS/EXEMPLARISCH** **Morphomatische Fallstudien zu Biographie und Portrait**

### **Abstract**

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### **Biography and the Production of History**

This paper examines the ways in which biography as the study of individual genius or distinction has been critiqued by approaches that have emphasised social processes and group identities. This social biography approach was based on ideas of typicality and representativeness as well as a focus on collectivities. In suggesting that these 'social biographers' nevertheless were also caught up in the limitations of realism and the biographical illusion, this paper is interested in investigating how biography can be rethought outside the terms of modernism. This it does through arguing for the study of processes of biographic production, biographical relations and an understanding of conditions of biographical production.

