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The Phantasm of the German Migrant Or The Invention of Brazil

This paper undertakes a fresh appraisal of German emigration to Brazil as an important but mainly overlooked component of nineteenth-century German identity construction and nationalism. It analyzes Brazil as a controversial political space of *national imagination*, *colonial fantasy*, and *intercultural translation* and evaluates the German emigrant community in Brazil as an *invention* that is, until today, a depiction heavily loaded with ideological and racial bias. Drawing on Flusser's thoughts on "Heimat" and migration, this article outlines an intercultural and interdisciplinary approach that takes into consideration inventions in the German-language context and in the Portuguese-language context as well as the dynamics between languages and cultures.

Keywords: Brazil, migration, intercultural translation, 'Heimat'

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