

≡ ***Congratulations*** ≡

***To the Winner of the Max Kade Prize
for the
Best Article in Modern Austrian Literature
published in 2007***

Jakob Norberg
Ph.D. in German Studies, Princeton University
for his essay

“The Black Book: Karl Kraus’s Etiquette”

*The prize was announced and awarded at the most recent
MALCA conference
at the University of Washington, April 24–27, 2008.*



From the *MAL* Editorial Board Jury:

“This is an extraordinary article and, for me, the clear winner. The author presents an elegantly written and sustained argument that deftly analyzes Kraus’s injunctions against ‘polite conversation.’ With nuance and detail, Norberg situates Kraus’s critique within turn-of-the-century Vienna as well as within the larger functions and systems of language.”

“Unusual topic, refreshing; brings interesting theory to bear on the study of Kraus’s ‘Black Book.’ Well written. Fun to read.”

“Cleverly argued, perceptive account of Kraus’s self-generated impasse. Very strong piece.”

“This is an absolutely original analysis—very good analysis of how Kraus structured his critique through a kind of montage technique. Sets an example of how to work with Kraus’s œuvre—for which there are no models.”

“This is an outstanding essay. It makes a compelling and apparently novel argument about Kraus’s virtually self-canceling attempt to improve social behavior in Vienna through the ‘Black Book.’ It is very well written; it illuminates in a general manner clichéd behavior at that time in Vienna, even as it shows in an original way Kraus’s response to Viennese sociable philistinism. The essay is also very well researched, drawing on a wide array of primary and secondary literature.”