

German Screen Studies Network 4th Annual Symposium

A Festival of Ideas exploring German Cinema's

LIVING PASTS, MOVING PRESENT

Thursday Sept 8 – Saturday Sept 10 2016

ADMISSION FREE

Three days of screenings, workshops and panel discussions on cinema as a resource for reshaping a crisis-ridden global present.

The event begins on Thursday 8th September with an open research forum, followed by a workshop on Berlin Arsenal's *Living Archive* project featuring special guests Senta Siewert (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt) and Stefanie Schulte Strathaus (Arsenal). The workshop sets the tone for an evening screening exploring early experiments in film rhythm by Lotte Reiniger and Oskar Fischinger. Panels and screenings on Friday 9th September showcase filmmaking projects that reanimate the lost heritage of archive and early silent film through historical documentary (*Dreams Rewired/Mobilisierung der Träume*, Manu Luksch, Martin Reinhart, Thomas Tode, 2015); DIY cinema (*Labor Berlin*); and short films including Florian Zeyfang's *Splicefilm* (2013) and Susanne Sachsse's *Serious Ladies* (2012). On Saturday 10th the focus shifts to the contemporary moment with panels and screenings on modernist explorations of film time (Straub-Huillet); on neoliberal future visions (*Fictions and Futures #1. Happiness in the Abstract*, 2013); and on activist projects including the short film compilation *Research Refugees*, and the Nigerian archive and curatorial project *Reclaiming History, Unveiling Memory* (Didi Cheeka, Lagos Film Society).

**ALL SESSIONS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
BOOKING AVAILABLE FOR FULL EVENT OR SELECTED DAYS
ADVANCE BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

VENUES

**King's College London; Queen Mary University of London; Goethe-Institut, London
Close-Up Film Centre, London**

Organising Committee: Erica Carter, Eleanor Halsall (King's College London); Alasdair King (Queen Mary University of London); Annie Ring (University College London); Sophie Burt (University of Oxford); Rafael Dernbach (University of Cambridge/FU-Berlin)



<http://germanscreenstudies.eu>

PROGRAMME RESEARCH FORUM AND WORKSHOP

**Thursday 8 September, Queen Mary University of London (Mile End Campus)
Hitchcock Cinema, QMUL ARTS 1, Room G19**

A regular feature of the symposium programme, the Research Forum brings together researchers from within and beyond the academy to exchange ideas from their ongoing research. This year's forum includes an afternoon workshop and evening screening staged in collaboration with the Berlin Arsenal's Living Archive project, and with Close-Up Film Centre, London.

9.15 – 9.45: Registration: Foyer, ARTS 1 Building, Mile End Road

9.45 – 10.00: Introduction: Alasdair King (QMUL), Sophie Burt & Rafael Dernbach (GSSN Postgraduate Coordinators)

10.00 KEYNOTE LECTURE: CINEMA, TIME AND SIMULTANEITY

Florian Lippert, *Eine Einstellung zur Zeit. Real-time simultaneity in Sebastian Schipper's Victoria* (2015)

Chair: Sophie Burt (GSSN/Modern Languages, Oxford)

11.30 – 12.45: PANEL 1: WEIMAR CINEMA REVISITED

Eszter Polonyi (Art History, Columbia University, NY): *Seeing Stars: Béla Balázs and Elizabeth Bergner*

Joseph Keady (Comparative Literature, University of Massachusetts, Amherst): *German Filmmakers, Jazz and Blackness in Germany and Hollywood in the 1920s – 1940s*

Chair: Karolina Watroba (Modern Languages, Oxford)

12.45 – 13.45: Lunch: Foyer, ARTS 1: a buffet lunch will be provided for delegates.

13.45 – 15.00: PANEL 2: THE PAST AS PRESENT

Karolina Watroba (Modern Languages, Oxford): *A Bergfilm that could (not) have been: Film history in Guy Maddin's Careful*

Hanja Daemon (Departments of English and German, King's College, London): *Germany's Two Pasts: the Weimar Republic and National Socialism in post-war German film*

Chair: Eszter Polonyi (Art History, Columbia University, NY)

15.15 – 17.15 RESEARCH WORKSHOP: THE ARSENAL AND THE LIVING ARCHIVE

Senta Siewert (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt); Stefanie Schulte Strathaus (Arsenal Institute for Film and Video Art)

Chair: Erica Carter

In 2011, the Berlin-based Arsenal Institute for Film and Video Art launched the Living Archive, a collaborative project with curators, artists, filmmakers and academics from Europe, India, South Africa, Jordan and Brazil. Senta Siewert (Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt) has researched the Arsenal project in the context of her ongoing research on curatorship. She leads a workshop at this year's GSSN with Stefanie Schulte Strathaus, co-founder and Section Director of the Berlin Film Festival 's Forum Expanded and co-chair of the Arsenal. Workshop participants will gain insight into the Living Archive's practices of past and present, and will use a combination of theoretical and practical approaches to explore research questions concerning the presentation and preservation of international film heritage.

19.00 – 21.00 : SCREENING AND PANEL DISCUSSION: FILMS OF RHYTHM AND MOVEMENT: LOTTE REINIGER AND OSKAR FISCHINGER

Close-Up Film Centre, London E1 6HR.

Introduction: Damien Sanville, Close-Up; Rachel Palfreyman (University of Nottingham)

The 1920s filmmaker and silhouette animation pioneer, Lotte Reiniger, saw her music and fairy-tale films as modernist experiments in rhythm, form and modern time. This screening and panel discussion brings together selected works from Reiniger including *Papageno*, *Galathea* (1935), *Thumbelina* (1954), *Carmen* (1933) and the commercial film *Here and There* (1949-50), screened alongside Oskar Fischinger's *Studie Nr 8* (1931).

Q&A with Rachel Palfreyman (University of Nottingham), Tashi Petter (Queen Mary University of London), Erica Carter (King's College London/GSSN).

Tickets: £10 / £8 conc. / £6 Close-Up members

Booking essential. Box Office: 02037847975 or online [here](#).

SYMPOSIUM

Friday 9 – Saturday 10 September: King's College London
King's Building, Strand, London, WC2R 2LS

PLEASE NOTE ROOM NUMBERS, WHICH CHANGE FROM FRIDAY TO SATURDAY.
VOLUNTEERS WILL BE ON HAND ON BOTH DAYS TO GUIDE YOU.

Friday 9 September

9.15: Registration and coffee: Room K-1.14 (Basement 1, King's Building)

10.00: Introduction and welcome: Nash Lecture Theatre, Room K2.31 (King's Building)
Erica Carter (King's College London), Alasdair King (QMUL), Annie Ring (UCL)

10.15 KEYNOTE LECTURE Room K2.31 (Floor 2, King's Building)

Vinzenz Hediger, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt

WHO INHERITS THE ARCHIVE? ON THE POLITICS OF (AUDIOVISUAL) HERITAGE.

Chair: Alasdair King (QMUL)

11.15: Coffee

11.35 – 12.50: PANEL 1: IMAGE AND SOUND IN SILENT FILM HISTORY Room K2.31

Mario Sluga (Warwick), Bringing the Lecturer Back to Life

Leila Mukhida (Berlin), The Sounding Archive

Melissa Elliot, (Michigan), Not so Silent Film. Film Music History Found in the Film Score for *Orlacs Hände*

Chair: Annie Ring (UCL)

12.50 – 14.00: Lunch

14.00 – 16.00: FILM SCREENING: DREAMS REWIRED/MOBILISIERUNG DER TRÄUME

(Manu Luksch, Martin Reinhart, Thomas Tode, 2015) 90'. Room K2.31

Q & A: Annie Ring (UCL) with Manu Luksch (co-director, Dreams Rewired)

16.20 – 17.20 PANEL 2: LABOR BERLIN: ANALOGUE FILM AND DIY PRACTICE Room K2.31

Presentation by filmmaker Arne Hector (Labor Berlin) on analogue film in contemporary experimental and DIY film practice: discussion with

Manu Luksch, Paul Flaig (University of Aberdeen).

Chair: Michael Cowan (University of St Andrews)

17.20 – 18.15 RECEPTION AND BOOK LAUNCH: Room K-1.14

THE PROMISE OF CINEMA. GERMAN FILM THEORY 1907-1933, ed. Anton Kaes, Nicolas Baer, Michael Cowan (University of California Press, 2016)

19.30: SCREENING AND PANEL DISCUSSION

Goethe-Institut London, 50 Princes Gate, London SW7 2PH: www.goethe.de/gb

LIVING ARCHIVE – ARCHIVE WORK AS A CONTEMPORARY ARTISTIC AND CURATORIAL PRACTICE

A taste of the Arsenal's now concluded project "Archive Work as a Contemporary Artistic and Curatorial Practice". The evening kicks off with a film programme selected from or produced in response to works from the Arsenal's collection by project participants including the actor Susanne

Sachsse, artists and curators Martin Ebner and Florian Zeyfang, and students from artist Hito Steyerl's lens-based class at the University of the Arts (UdK), Berlin. The subsequent round table features special guests Stefanie Schulte Strathaus, co-director of Arsenal – Institute for Film and Video Art and curator of "Living Archive – Archive Work as a Contemporary Artistic and Curatorial Practice"; artist-curators Florian Zeyfang and Martin Ebner; Marica Palacios Cruz (Deputy Director, LUX). Moderator: Erika Balsom, King's College London

Tickets: £3, £ 2 for registered symposium participants (proof of registration required), Booking essential: Box Office: T. 020 7596 4000, Online booking via [Eventbrite](#).

Saturday 10 September

9.30 Registration: Strand Building, Room S-1.27 (Basement 1, Strand Building)

10.00 – 11.00: SCREENING AND Q & A: Room S-1.06 (Basement 1, Strand Building)
FICTIONS AND FUTURES #1. HAPPINESS IN THE ABSTRACT (Minze Tummescheit, Arne Hector, 2013) 30'

Q&A: Rafael Dernbach

11.15 – 12.45 PANEL 3: MODERN TIME: Room S-1.06

Pedro Aspahan, Martin Brady, Gareth Polmeer: *Von heute auf morgen*: Straub-Huillet, serialism and constellations of time

Helen Hughes, Volker Sattel's *Unter Kontrolle: Eine Archäologie der Atomkraft* (2011)

Chair: Florian Lippert

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch: Room S-1.27

13.45 – 15.45 SCREENINGS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS: Room S-1.06
HISTORY IS NOW! THREE INTERVENTIONS

Research Refugees (Filmkollektiv Recherche 2016) 45'

A series of collectively produced short films using experimental and documentary formats to intervene in media discourse around the refugee crisis. This compilation screening features *Meinungsaustausch/Duologue* (d. Sophie Linnenbaum); *Zufall/Coincidence* (Thais Odermatt); *Wegweiser/Signpost* (d. Laura Laabs); *Imbiss/Snack* (d. Christoph Eder); *0.5qm* (d. Tobias Wilhelm); *Veto* (d. Natascha Sinelnikova)

Q & A with filmmakers Sophie Linnenbaum, Laura Laabs, Christoph Eder, Tobias Wilhelm, Natascha Sinelnikova.

Chair: Leila Mukhida

Reclaiming History, Unveiling Memory

The discovery, in 2015, of a batch of films from Nigeria's colonial/ post-colonial history in the abandoned rooms of the old Colonial Film Unit in Lagos is the point of departure for a discussion about the find, and about the possibilities and challenges that arise from it for archival practice. Lagos-based filmmaker and curator Didi Cheeka presents the Goethe Institut-supported project with Stefanie Schulte Strathaus of the Arsenal Berlin.

Chair: Dele Meiji Fatunla, Head of Communications, Royal African Society

15.45 Tea Break: Room S-1.27

16.00 Room S-1.06: German Screen Studies Network Website

www.germanscreenstudies.eu

The June 2016 UK referendum decision to withdraw from EU membership has far-reaching implications for critical internationalism in UK film culture. The new GSSN website offers possibilities for transnational connections post-2016; it will be launched in a concluding session that explores possibilities for future collaboration.

Eleanor Halsall, Erica Carter

16.30 SYMPOSIUM ENDS

REGISTRATION

Registration is free, but booking is essential. Book [here](#).

ENQUIRIES

Enquiries to germanscreenstudies@gmail.com

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

This event would not have been possible without generous support from our sponsors: German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD London); QMUL School of Languages, Linguistics and Film; King's College London, Department of German.

Warm thanks also for support in kind from the Goethe-Institut London, Close-Up Film Centre and the Birkbeck Institute for the Moving Image (BIMI).

Living Pasts, Moving Present could not have happened with the enthusiastic support of Maren Hobein, Goethe-Institut London, and Damien Sanville, Close-Up: sincere thanks to both from the GSSN organizing committee.

The programme is subject to alteration if unforeseen issues occur.