


Annual Conference, November 07–09, 2024



Decolonial Aesthetic Practices?

University
of Hildesheim

uni-hildesheim.de/grk-2477

DFG Research
Training Group 2477
“Aesthetic Practice”

Culture Campus
(Domäne Marienburg)
Hohes Haus, Aula (R 302)

Decolonial Aesthetic Practices? November 07–09, 2024

The international conference convenes scholars and practitioners from various fields to explore the interplay between theory and practice within decolonial frameworks.

The first section examines decolonial aesthetic practices that critically engage with the Eurocentric concept of historiography, narration and epistemology and its methodological coloniality. The contributions deal with decoloniality as a method in the analytical practice of art history and art studies, address the challenges for critical practices of a philosophy in an entangled historical perspective and examine the limits of some key concepts of decoloniality.

The second section focuses on decolonial aesthetic practices in the fields of visual arts, museums and visual media. The lectures explore how colonial materials, colonial destruction and the colonial power structures internalized and perpetuated in institutions, objects, images, testimonies and spaces can be addressed responsibly. Finally, they call for institutional power and existing analytical approaches to be questioned in ways that ensure the transformation of colonial practices into decolonial practices in the long term.

The third section, engaging with an Arab-African perspective, addresses a central paradox: despite the call to decolonize stemming from a rejection of colonial structures, can this injunction be perceived as a Western construct? How can decolonial struggles avoid being hijacked? This section critically examines whether the act of decolonizing effectively dismantles colonial power structures or merely reproduces them.

Organisation

Meriam Boussemli, Thomas Lange, Florentine Muhry (members of the RTG) and Sonja Dinter (coordination)

Accessibility

Please note that the entire conference will be held in English (no translation provided by the organisers). The rooms on the Culture Campus are accessible by lift.

For more information

Abstracts: uni-hildesheim.de/grk-2477/veranstaltungen. Registration by mail: grk2477@uni-hildesheim.de



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Thursday, November 07, 10:00–19:00

Section 1: Narratives, history and epistemology • Chair: Thomas Lange

10:00–10:15
Introduction

10:15–11:15
Carolyn Overhoff Ferreira: Decoloniality—
a challenge to modernity

11:15–11:30 Coffee Break

11:30–12:30
Olaf Zenker: Lecturing on Anton Wilhelm
Amo, or: How to decolonize the
academy?

12:30–14:00 Lunch Break

14:00–15:00
Hannah Franziska Feiler: Sabotaging,
listening, reorienting. Critical practices
of a philosophy in an entanglement-
historical perspective

15:00–15:15 Coffee Break

15:15–16:15
Monica Juneja: “A film half a millennium
long played backwards”: The limits
of decoloniality as a perspective for
a critical art history

16:15–16:30 Coffee Break

Section 2: Ways of seeing, displaying and exhibiting • Chair: Florentine Muhry

16:30–16:45
Introduction

16:45–17:45
Sarah Hegenbart: Njideka Akunyili
Crosby’s transcultural interiors as
dialogical images

17:45–18:00 Coffee Break

18:00–19:00
Katrin Köppert: Digital Blackface.
Decolonial aesthetics of computational
fugitivity

19:30 Dinner

Friday, November 08, 10:00–19:00

10:00–11:00
Sophie Junge: Listening to
images—Encountering colonial photo
archives

11:00–11:15 Coffee Break

11:15–12:15
Lotte Arndt: Porous bodies, toxic
relationality

12:15–14:00 Lunch Break

14:00–15:00
Jocelyne Stahl: Backstage becomes
Frontstage. Practices of unlearning
and curating museum practices at the
*GRASSI Museum für Völkerkunde zu
Leipzig*

15:00–15:15 Coffee Break

Section 3: Decolonize!: A Western injunction? • Chair: Meriam Boussemli

15:15–15:30
Introduction

15:30–16:30
Meriam Boussemli: “Decolonial-
splaining”? On the hegemony of a
discursive practice

16:30–16:45 Coffee Break

16:45–17:45
Chokri Ben Chikha:
Truth Commission: The Human Zoo as a
tool for critical (re)search on decolonial
practices

17:45–18:00 Coffee Break

18:00–19:00
Sabine Choucair: The Clowntastic
lecture-performance

19:30 Dinner

Saturday, November 09, 10:00–13:00

10:00–11:00
Kene Igweonu: The Ignorant Practitioner:
A diasporic perspective on decolonisation
and anti-racism in UK higher education

11:00–11:15 Coffee Break

11:15–12:15
Ayoko Mensah: From decolonisation to
emancipation: “desacralising Western
paradigms of art”?

12:15–13:00 Closing Discussion

13:00 Lunch