



INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

TO BOLDLY GO WHERE NO MAN HAS GONE BEFORE:

THE FASCINATION WITH THE UNKNOWN: TIME



EINSTEIN-SAAL | JAEGERSTRASSE 22/23 | 10117 BERLIN
BERLIN-BRANDENBURG ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES



CONTENT



The unknown and unfamiliar enthrall us. They exert a profound fascination. Following an interdisciplinary symposium, which explored the fascination with the unknown with regard to space (“To Boldly go where no man has gone before – Fascination with the Unknown: Space”, 30th -31st May, 2014), this conference will explore the attraction of the unknown with regard to time. Unknown time alludes to specific periods of time that have not yet been fully explored, remain mysterious and magical, and might be perceived as ominous or auspicious.

Unknown time(s) may be situated in the past, the present, or the future. Predictions and prophecies indicate the human need to come to terms with unknown time, to ascribe it meaning, to make it known. Science, culture, and the arts have approached unknown periods of time in diverse ways. While historians and archaeologists attempt to dissect and rationalize these times, in literature and art, unknown time(s) is/are often carefully constructed and preserved. The fine arts, in particular, play a crucial role in the representation, conceptualisation, and construction of unknown time. They relate to or represent unknown time (as, for instance,

in utopian or dystopian fiction) or may even create new forms of an unknown, future time, as presented, for instance, in science fiction. This conference explores the connection between time and the fascination of the unknown as well as various forms, functions, and effects of unknown time.

Contact & registration:

faszinationzeit @ diejungeakademie.de

Programme & further information:

www.diejungeakademie.de

The conference is organised by the Research Group “Fascination” of the German Young Academy (Die Junge Akademie)

The Junge Akademie was founded in 2000 by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina as the first young academy worldwide.

Organisers:

Sibylle Baumbach (Mainz), Lena Henningsen (Freiburg), Katharina Heyden (Bern), Klaus Oschema (Heidelberg)

Design & photography:

www.isaworks.com



Die Junge Akademie

THURSDAY 09-JULY-2015

14:30 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

15:30 I WHAT IS UNKNOWN TIME?
CONCEPTS, THEORIES,
METHODS

KATJA WEHDE (GIESSEN)
Reintroducing Time to Ethnographic Displays: An Analysis of Current Strategies and Challenges of Narrating the Unknown in German Ethnological Museums

MARCO TAMBORINI (HEIDELBERG)
How to Observe? Visualization and Conceptualization of Deep Time in Paleontological Practice

WENDY LARSON (OREGON)
The Chinese Gorky: Comparative Optimism as a Temporal Discourse

17:30 COFFEE BREAK

18:00 KEYNOTE

WALTHER C. ZIMMERLI (BERLIN)
Are We Making Time - or Is Time Making Us? The Fascination of an Uncertain Relation

19:30 DINNER

FRIDAY 10-JULY-2015

09:30 II PAST FUTURES

ANKE HOLDENRIED (BRISTOL)

From Now until the End: The Reuse of Prophecies in the 11th and 12th Centuries

CHRISTIAN HOFFARTH (DUISBURG-ESSEN)

Wunschzeit Jerusalem: Reconsidering the Distinction between Ideal Places and Ideal Times in Medieval Utopias

ANDRÁS KRAFT (BUDAPEST)

Living on the Edge of Time: Remarks on the Byzantine History of the Future

KLAUS OSCEMA (HEIDELBERG)

Unknown or Uncertain? Astrologers, the Church, and the Future in the Late Middle Ages

12:30 LUNCH

14:00 III PRESENTS

FILIP LEHA (PRAGUE)
The Rearrangement of Time in Ge Fei's Novella *Flocks of Brown Birds*

DANIEL E. AGBIBOA (OXFORD)
'God's Time is the best': Exploring the Nexus between 'Cyclical Time' and 'Linear Time' in Everyday Life

ANNA G. PIOTROWSKA (KRAKOW)
Perpetual Wanderers - Timeless Heroes: Gypsies in European Musical Culture

CAROLIN ROTHAUGE (ERLANGEN-NÜRNBERG)
Present and Future - 'Unknown Times' in the German Empire around 1900

17:00 COFFEE BREAK

17:30 SPECIAL EVENT

19:30 DINNER

SATURDAY 11-JULY-2015

09:00 IV FUTURE PASTS

SHELDON LU (DAVIS)
The Time-Image and the Unknown in Wong Kar-wai's Film Art

XIAO LIU (MONTREAL)
A Game of Time: Video Game, Algorithmic Temporality, and Cinema in the Digital Era

HAUKE LEHMANN (BERLIN)
Suspense, Knowledge, and Time in David Fincher's *Gone Girl*

EVELYN RUNGE (HILDESHEIM)
un<FOCUS>ed. Time in Photography

KAI WIEGANDT (BERLIN)
How Unknown Things Make Science Fiction Fascinating

12:30 FINAL DISCUSSION

13:30 END