

Digital Conference of the
Collaborative Research Center 980
“Episteme in Motion”

Aesthetics as Epistemic Practice in Premodern Cultures

24–26 June 2021
Freie Universität Berlin

The transfer of knowledge is always bound to material objects or practices of representation. The upcoming annual conference of the research center investigates aesthetic procedures involved in generating knowledge from a transcultural perspective, including artifacts from both premodern European as well as non-European cultures. To what extent can aesthetic practices be qualified as practices that constitute knowledge? How do specific cultural and temporal contexts mark aesthetic phenomena? What role do religious backgrounds, ritual practices or craftsmanship play? How do they shape concepts or notions?

The notion of ‘aesthetics’ is explicitly not to be reduced to a theory of beauty, to categories of art or to conceptualizations of the sublime. Rather, we understand ‘aesthetics’ as an open concept that allows for a transcultural investigation of a spectrum of practices regarding sensorial experiences, forms of perception and the affective potential of formation, as well as sensorial ways of comprehension. Talking about ‘premodern aesthetics’, we intendedly include reflections implicitly made with and through objects, their materiality, or practices. In which contexts do they take effect and how can they be described? In paying specific attention to the material and medial conditions of aesthetic practices, to objects and perceptions, we aim to investigate the relevance of aesthetic dimensions in premodern cultures of knowledge.

The annual conference is conceived and organized by the concept group “Materiality and Mediality” under the direction of Anne Eusterschulte and Claudia Reufer.



Conference
website

THU
24 June

- 14:00** Welcome
GYBURG UHLMANN
- Introduction
ANNE EUSTERSCHULTE, CLAUDIA REUFER
- 14:30** ANNETTE GEROK-REITER
Universität Tübingen
,Süezes' Wissen. Zum Erkenntnispotential einer ästhetischen Konfiguration in mittelhochdeutschen Texten
(with simultaneous translation)
- 15:30** CLAUDIA REUFER
Freie Universität Berlin
Ästhetische Aufmerksamkeitslenkung in venezianischen Zeichnungen der Renaissance
(with simultaneous translation)

- 17:00** JAN-PEER HARTMANN
Freie Universität Berlin
Glass, Crystal, and the Temporal Topography of Faerie in *Sir Orfeo*
- 18:00** SUGATA RAY
UC Berkeley
From New Spain to Mughal India: Rethinking Early Modern Animal Studies with a Turkey, ca. 1612
- 19:45** VIDAL & GROTH
Maelström
- 20:00** NIKLAUS LARGIER
UC Berkeley
Aesthetic Transcriptions of Dogmatic Knowledge

FRI
25 June

- 14:00** JÖRG ROBERT
Universität Tübingen
Wissenspoetik und ästhetische Autonomie – G. E. Lessing und das Lehrgedicht
(with simultaneous translation)
- 15:00** RANA RAEISI DASTENAEI
Universität Isfahan
Die persische Poesie der Vormoderne als ästhetische Wissensform
(with simultaneous translation)
- 16:30** ANNE EUSTERSCHULTE
Freie Universität Berlin
Curiositas oder stupor? Ästhetische Wissensverhandlung in Dantes *Divina Commedia*
(with simultaneous translation)

- 17:30** JENS BAUMGARTEN
Universidade Federal de São Paulo
The Marginal and the Blurring: Transcultural Aesthetics in the Colonial Context of Brazil
- 19:00** SHARON KINOSHITA
UC Santa Cruz
What's in a Frame? Generic Hybridity and Global Diversity in Marco Polo's *Le Devisement du monde*
- 20:00** JULIA ORELL
University of British Columbia
Landscape Painting and Geographical Knowledge in Song Dynasty China

SAT
26 June

- 10:00** INGA MAI GROOTE
Universität Zürich
"zierlich, deutlich und vernehmlich"? Choralmelodien als ästhetisches Wissen im 17. Jahrhundert
(with simultaneous translation)
- 11:00** ALMUT BOCKISCH
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Ästhetik des Hohelieds in seiner antiken Kommentierung
(with simultaneous translation)

- 13:00** VLADIMIR GLOMB
Freie Universität Berlin
Beautiful Surroundings and Diligent Studies: The Role of Aesthetics in Korean Confucian Academies
- 14:00** DAVID LURIE
Columbia University
Negative Aesthetics: The Power of Ugliness in Japanese Mythology
- 15:30** What are Aesthetic Practices?
ROUND-UP AND DISCUSSION