

In our workshop we want to discuss questions that have recently arisen in the context of critical posthumanism. In particular, we want to explore what implications posthumanism as a research perspective may have for rethinking human agency, self-experience, and description within a general tendency of regarding the human as interrelated node in a network of technological, environmental, media-related, and other non-human factors.



all posthumanist artwork by Dorothea Donneberg
<http://vimeo.com/user6166689/videos>
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LOCATION



Getting to the IBZ - Meeting Center

Mannheim's main station is in close reach of the University of Mannheim and the IBZ and enables access to ICE trains. The trams number 1 and 5 take you to the university where you can either get out at the stop "Schloß" or "University".

International guests reach Mannheim via the airport in Frankfurt/Main. Fast trains such as the ICE trains take you to Mannheim train station in about 30 minutes.

IBZ - WELCOME CENTER
L2. 2-4 Mannheim, 681
(0621) 181- 3222

<http://www.uni-mannheim.de/welcomecentre/english/startpage/index.html>

POSTHUMANIST PERSPECTIVES

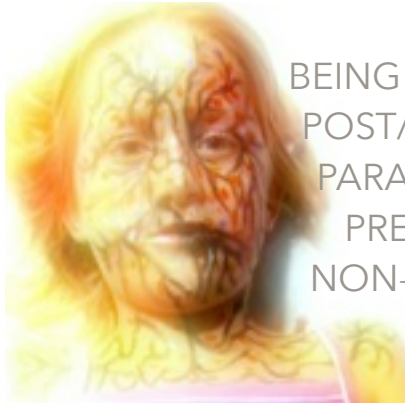


INTERNATIONAL
WORKSHOP

MARCH 7-8, 2014

UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM

AMERICAN STUDIES



BEING HUMAN
POST/HUMAN
PARAHUMAN
PREHUMAN
NON-HUMAN

- How can an interdisciplinary posthumanist project be realized that accounts for the growing interdependencies between human and non-human agencies?
- What are the implications of regarding posthumanism as a critical research perspective/methodology rather than merely as a phenomenon restricted to the technical convertibility of the human body?
- What benefits and challenges does a critical posthumanism carry for the humanities, and specifically for American Studies?
- What role do cultural narratives play in generating visions of the posthuman and what cultural, political, and ethical functions do they have?

POSTHUMANIST

PERSPECTIVES

Friday March 7

2:00 Opening Remarks
Ulfried Reichardt, Regina Schober

2:30 Originary Mediality, or How the Media Made Us Post/Human
Stefan Herbrechter
Response: *Stefan Danter*

3:40 Bio break

4:10 Parahuman agencies. Can we escape modernist narratives?
Karin Harrasser
Response: *Regina Schober*

5:40 The Posthuman Imagination: Contemporary Fiction Against Narrativity
Joseph Tabbi
Response: *Johannes Fehrle*

7:30 Dinner

Saturday March 8

10:00 Making Love to Whale and Bear
Christa Grewe-Volpp
Response: *Su Montoya*

11:15 Bio break

11:50 Critical Prehumanism
Hanjo Berressem
Response: *Ulfried Reichardt*

1:00 Concluding Remarks

1:30 Lunch

Workshop organized by American Studies as a part of the project "Transformations of Subjectivity" within the Research and Study Center of the School of Humanities at the University of Mannheim.

Workshop organizers: Stefan Danter, Johannes Fehrle, Christa Grewe-Volpp, Su Montoya, Ulfried Reichardt, Regina Schober