

# Beyond Technology

**DFG** Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

Internationales Netzwerk für  
Medienphilosophie

das  
Wissen  
der  
Künste  
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 Universität der Künste Berlin —

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Zurich University of the Arts  
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October 26, 2019

Universität der Künste  
Medienhaus  
Grunewaldstrasse 2-5  
10823 Berlin

Perspectives of International Media Philosophy

# Program

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10:00 – 10:10	Welcome
10:10 – 11:00	Sybille Krämer: <i>Was Bedeutet Digitalisierung?</i>
11:00 – 11:50	Anke Finger: <i>Facing the Abyss: Towards an Intercultural Media Theory</i>
12:00 – 12:50	Katerina Krtilova: <i>The Mediality of Theory</i>
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 15:50	Nadja Ben Khelifa: <i>Not Quite Human - Excursions to the Uncanny Valley</i>
16:00 – 16:50	Alexander Galloway: <i>Media and Mathematics</i>
17:00 – 18:00	Panel Discussion: <i>Technology and Knowledge in the Arts</i> Irina Raskin, Katerina Krtilova, Fabian Goppelsröder, Christoph Ernst

The workshop is open to the public. Registration is not required.

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Digital technologies have become ubiquitous and are now found in the humanities, as they are elsewhere. While computing has been discussed in media theory for decades, the relatively recent implementation of algorithms in the everyday practices of the humanities seems to indicate a new technological – and practical – media revolution.

Media philosophy offers a perspective on this evolving practice of the humanities. Rather than regarding media as the object of its research, media philosophy instead turns the attention to the “upheaval in the method of thinking” (Vilém Flusser), as both a passive and active response to the changing media of knowledge, perception and action. In this context, a media philosophical perspective is not just reacting to digital technology or privileging it above others. Media philosophy shows that a critique of “techno-determinism” becomes relevant for cultural theory far beyond a critique of the various forms of Kittlerian media theory, or the now prominent Science & Technology-Studies. Rather, it points to methodological questions regarding different media practices; writing, archiving, and visualization are seen as both the objects of research as well as the “tools” for research in various fields, preceding and parallel to “Medienwissenschaft”, such as literature, film, art, history or ethnography.

The workshop will take up premises of German media philosophy in the international context, discussing new ways of analyzing culture by integrating media practices on one hand, and questioning media practices as technological practices on the other. Given the fact that the question of method is currently an international one, the goal is to engage in the discussion of a post-digital media landscape in the broader context of this “upheaval at the level of method” (Alexander Galloway) and its different manifestations in different cultural and historical contexts.