

## KWI NEWS 3/2023



### NEW FACES

### KWI Welcomes Five New Colleagues

+ **Mona Leinung** is an art and media scholar and PhD student at the Folkwang University of the Arts, Essen. Her research focuses on media aesthetics, digital culture, and the philosophy of the arts. At KWI she will work on her PhD project, tentatively titled "Hot and Cold: On the Materiality of Memory."

+ **Constantin M. März** is a historian and completed his BA and MA in Tübingen. Afterwards he was a member of the DFG-SFB 932 ("Bedrohte Ordnungen") until he came to Essen to work on a dissertation project about nuclear futures at the DFG-GRK 1919 ("Kontingenzbewältigung durch Zukunftshandeln"). At KWI, he is now involved in the research project on the history of the Burda company.

+ **Dr. Roxanne Phillips** completed her doctorate in German literature at LMU Munich and joins KWI as a postdoctoral researcher. She is currently exploring new interdisciplinary approaches to comedy studies and working on the aesthetics, functions, and mediality of falling bodies from Enlightenment comedy to early slapstick cinema.

+ **Lukas Schepers** studied journalism (BA) and digital communication (MA) in Gelsenkirchen and Hamburg before pursuing a second MA degree in art history. After working at the Bucerius Kunst Forum and the Forschungsstelle Politische Ikonographie at the Warburg-Haus in Hamburg, he returned to the Ruhr area to start his PhD project on the political iconography of coal mining.

+ **Jakob Schnetz** is a new PhD candidate at KWI. He studied photography in Hannover and Tomsk, and history and theory of photography in Essen. His interdisciplinary research project deals with bias, norms, and cultural formations of the digital photographic apparatus.



### PROJECTS

### and Calls

#### History of the Burda Family Business in the 20th Century

This research project explores the history of the Burda family and their business across three different political systems in Germany: the Weimar Republic, the Third Reich, and the Federal Republic. Starting as a small print shop in 1908, the Burda business expanded rapidly, driven by innovations in media technology. The research project is led by an independent commission and includes a focus on the history and impact of the Holocaust.

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#### Anja Schürmann Appointed to the Jury of the German Photo Book Award

Since October 2022, the German Photo Book Award has been recognizing outstanding contemporary photo books and books that explore photographic images across 12 categories each year. Anja Schürmann, a researcher at KWI specializing in artistic photo books, has been selected as a jury member for this year's award.

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#### CfA: KWI International Fellowships and Thyssen@KWI Fellowship

KWI is offering fellowships for the 8th cohort of post-doctoral researchers to join us for six months, from 1 April to 30 September 2024. Additionally, the call for a Thyssen@KWI Fellowship in the same period is also open. Applications for both fellowships must be submitted by 31 August 2023.

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#### CfA: Writing Workshop

Intensive work on one's own texts is integral to doctoral studies in the humanities and social sciences. Especially for students who are not part of structured programs, opportunities for exchange can be rare, and isolation can be a problem. In order to provide support for young researchers, KWI is once again offering a weekend writing workshop tailored to the needs of PhD students. Application deadline: 31 August 2023

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### RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Book Launch *Canceln. Ein notwendiger Streit* (Cancelling: A Necessary Dispute)

On 23 May, Hanna Engelmeier, Florian Kessler, Mithu Sanyal, and Daniela Strigl discussed the cancel culture debate and its impact on the literature and translation market, readings in schools and universities, and the practice of academic work. The occasion was the release of the book *Canceln. Ein notwendiger Streit* (Hanser), which includes contributions from the panelists. The evening marked the beginning of a series of events and blog contributions within the framework of the annual theme "Mehr oder Weniger/More or Less" for 2023/2024 at KWI.

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### SNAPSHOT

Organized by Essen's renowned bookstore Proust, A.L. Kennedy presented her most recent novel *Als lebten wir in einem barmherzigen Land* on 8 May 2023. Excerpts from the German were read by Beate Scherzer, the evening and the discussion were moderated by Ricarda Menn.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

### June – July 2023



#### KWI Colloquium

The KWI colloquium provides a platform to present and discuss ongoing as well as emerging research projects. In addition to addressing projects within KWI – including the work of our new fellows – it is open to guest lectures that tie in with the institute's research agenda. This semester's rich programme ends on 12 July 2023.

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#### More or Less: Genug gelacht? Ein Abend zur Dosierung von Komik

20 June 2023, 19:00 (CET), ZOOM & KWI  
Speaker: Felicitas Hoppe, Roxanne Phillips  
Moderator: Julika Griem

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#### International Conference: History and Theory of Compromises

21 - 23 June 2023, KWI

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#### Discussion: Am Gläsernen Schreibtisch. Über Wissenschaftstracker, Profiler und Datenhändler

3 July 2023, 18:00 (CET), ZOOM & KWI  
Speaker: Alexander Friedrich, Petra Gehring, Ute Volkmann  
Moderator: Stefan Höhne

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#### Historicizing the Refugee Experience, 17th–21st Centuries. Third Annual International Seminar in Historical Refugee Studies

4 - 7 July 2023, Centre for Global Cooperation Research (KHK/GCR21), Duisburg

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#### Wenn und Aber: Mehr oder Weniger Autorschaft. Postautoriales Schreiben, Denken und Gestalten in Zeiten von Chat GPT 3 und Stable Diffusion

6 July 2023, 18:30 (CET), KWI  
Speaker: David Lauer

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#### Wenn und Aber: Forschungskolloquium Philosophie

7 July 2023, 10:00 - 16:00 (CET), Folkwang University of the Arts  
Speaker: David Lauer  
Moderator: Markus Rautzenberg

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#### More or Less: Mangel und Überfluss. Zur Verteilung von Knappheit im 21. Jahrhundert

13 July 2023, 18:00 (CET), ZOOM & KWI  
Speaker: Anna Echterhöler, Ralf Fücks, Lisa Herzog, Matthias Schmelzer  
Moderator: Danilo Scholz

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#### More or Less: Microtopoi – Poetics of Small Spaces

20 - 21 July 2023, KWI

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[SEE ALL UPCOMING EVENTS](#)



### EVENTS ON SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

Science communication is an important area of research at KWI. From 14 to 16 June, the Rhine Ruhr Center for Science Communication Research (RRC) is hosting the conference "Nowhere(toland)? What Science Studies Contribute to Science Communication" in Bonn, exploring questions such as how much research is necessary for good science communication.

Along with representatives of the three other centres for science communication funded by the Volkswagen Foundation, Julika Griem discussed the role of Chat GPT at a recent online event at the invitation of the Munich Science Communication Lab (MSCL).

At an event in March with the title "Von Schwarzen Löchern zur Soziologie – Wissenschaftskommunikation muss nicht immer naturwissenschaftlich sein" (From Black Holes to Sociology – Science Communication Need Not Always Be about the Natural Sciences), the Weizenbaum Institute took up questions of communication and its investigation in the social sciences and humanities. Talks by Julika Griem and others, as well as the subsequent discussion, are available for listening on the Weizenbaum-Forum podcast.



Discussion: ChatGPT and Science Communication  
Munich Science Communication Lab



Podcast: Wissenschaftskommunikation – von Schwarzen Löchern zur Soziologie  
Weizenbaum Institute



### NEW RELEASES

*Wie kommt das Neue in die Welt? Kreativität und Innovation interdisziplinär* edited by Friedrich Jaeger and Sabine Voßkamp

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"Training Scenes: Taking Science Studies to the Classroom" by Kris Decker

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"Unbelonging as a Postcolonial Predicament: My Tryst With European Academia" by KWI International Fellow Sanam Roohi

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"Contextures of Hate: Towards a Systems Theory of Hate Communication on Social Media Platforms," by KWI International Fellow Niklas Barth, Elke Wagner, Philipp Raab, and Björn Wiegärtner

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