In the past few years, the Actor-Network Theory of French philosopher and sociologist Bruno Latour has become a hotly debated topic in the humanities. From a philosophical perspective, his theory of things keeps being reevaluated: is it possible for “Human and Non-Human Actors” (Latour) to be analyzed as equally important actors? Does Latour’s theory of a simultaneously “agency” of things and concepts indeed move beyond a subject-object relation, and if it does, how far does it in fact go?

Such questions, seemingly at odds with more common traditions of thought, are the centerpiece of research at the Morphomata Center for Advanced Studies. The Center, located at the University of Cologne (Germany), is dedicated to the study of change inherent in, and the comparative aspects of, cultural figurations—the particular objects, things and artifacts created by and in a given culture—as well as the potency of these figurations throughout history. Of special interest are such questions as how these concrete artifacts and the quotations and borrowings they engender shape social acts, and how transmitted cultural forms can be reinterpreted.

Can the questions of intention and phenomenality be correlated with the resistance of things and their forms? Thus, the Workshop at the University of Cologne focuses on questions of symmetry or dissymmetry between the world of “things” and “human beings.”
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5**

Evening Lecture  
19.30 **Michael Niehaus** (Dortmund)  
Wandernde Dinge. Geschichten

**THURSDAY, JUNE 6**

10.00 **Martin Roussel** (Cologne) Opening Remarks  
Chair: Hanjo Berressem

10.15 **Ivan Tchalakov** (Plovdiv) The Amateur's Action: On the Limits of Actor-Network Account about Resistance and Endurance in Scientific Research

11.15 Coffee Break

11.45 **Charlotte Jaekel/Torsten Hahn** (Cologne) Jack-out-of-the-box. Literature's Knowledge about Malfunction, Interference, and Waste

12.30 Lunch  
Chair: Marian Feldman


15.00 **Jonathan Tummons** (Teesside) Curriculum as Accomplishment. Tracing Human and Non-Human Actors in the Delivery of Educational Curricula

15.45 Coffee Break  
Chair: Marta Dopieralski

16.15 **Georgi Kapriev** (Sofia/Cologne) The Byzantine Trace

17.00 **Stoyan Tanev** (Odense) Actor-Network vs Activity Theory: Dealing with the Changing Nature of the Asymmetry in Human-Technology Inter-Actions

17.45 Concluding Discussion

**Venue** Internationales Kolleg Morphomata, Center for Advanced Studies, Weyertal 59 (Back Building), 3rd Floor, 50937 Cologne

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