

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 trans-mitted 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.”

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FURTHER EVENTS IN SUMMERTERM 2013

12.06.–13.06.2013 – Conference

Stimmungen des Todes und ihre Bestimmung.
Ein Experiment

24.06.2013 – Lecture

Shaun Gallagher
Space, Science, and Spirituality

25.06.2013 – Lecture

Elisabeth Bronfen
Auf der Suche nach Kleopatra: Das Nachleben einer kulturellen Ikone

GEFÖRDEBT VOM



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung



LE SUJET DE L'ACTEUR **AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL** **OUTLOOK ON ACTOR-** **NETWORK THEORY**

WORKSHOP
JUNE 5–6, 2013



LE SUJET DE L'ACTEUR. AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL OUTLOOK ON ACTOR-NETWORK THEORY

WORKSHOP JUNE 5-6, 2013

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

14.15 **Arthur Tatnall** (Melbourne) Aspects of the History of Computing—an Actor-Network Perspective

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

Concept Georgi Kapriev, Martin Roussel, Ivan Tchalakov

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