

Nach dem Digitalen. Konjunkturen des Postdigitalen

After the Digital Turn – Beyond the Digital

“Yes, we are now in a digital age, to whatever degree our culture, infrastructure, and economy (in that order) allow us. But the really surprising changes will be elsewhere, in our lifestyle and how we collectively manage ourselves on this planet”, as Nicolas Negroponte pointed out in his essay «Beyond the Digital» already in 1998. The 2019 “Aesthetic Theory/Aesthetic Cultures” Autumn Academy focuses on the question of the “postdigital” condition; the German phrase “Nach dem Digitalen” referring to both “according to the digital” - the “digital turn” in philosophy, technology and art – and “beyond the digital”, implicating the limits and critical reflection of digital media, thus exploring new paradigms that reflect the self-evidence of digital culture(s).

19.10. 2019

14:30

ZHdK, Toni-Areal, 5 K03

Alexander R. Galloway: Media and Mathematics

Euclid is remembered as a geometer, when he is remembered at all. But Euclid's Elements was an omnibus compendium of all mathematical knowledge known to him at the time, beginning with the first mathematics, geometry, then addressing ratio and proportion--that is, logos and analogos--and ultimately arithmetic, irrationality, and other topics. Via reference to philosophy and mathematics, this talk will propose general formula for the digital and the analog, the former defined as the ratio of discrete terms (a/b), the latter defined as an equation of ratios ($a/b = c/d$). With these general formula in hand we will be able to explore two of the most common operative ontologies (digitality and analogicity), while also revealing an ontological scenario in which neither pertains.

21.10. 2019

11:00 – 12:30

ZHdK, Toni-Areal, 5 K03

Alois Krtil: A Brief Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

Alois Krtil, CEO des Artificial Intelligence Center Hamburg, wird die Geschichte, Gegenwart und Zukunft der *artificial intelligence* umreißen, auf Missverständnisse in der Diskussion der „künstlichen Intelligenz“ eingehen und die ihre Grenzen ausloten, mit Ausblick auf die Entwicklung der *artificial general intelligence* und darüber hinaus.

Alois Krtil, CEO of the Artificial Intelligence Center Hamburg, will sketch the history, present and future development of artificial intelligence and discuss its limits and misunderstandings in the public discussion of AI, as well as the vision of *artificial general intelligence*.

Der Vortrag findet auf Deutsch und Englisch statt.

21. 10. 2019

16:30 – 18:30

ZHdK, Toni-Areal, 5 K03

Uncomputable

Panel Discussion with Beatrice Fazi, Alexander Galloway and Dieter Mersch

Computation means to subsume the real as well as cognition, knowledge, judgement and so on under the mathematical concept of “the computable”; hence it implies the mathematization of the world, of social life and individual experiences. This tendency provokes the question: is there an outside of the mathematical regime? Does the computable have limitations? Are there limits within the mathematical? The panel will discuss these and other questions under the perspective of the ‘uncomputable’.

22.10. 2019

11:00 – 12:30

Beatrice Fazi: Aesthetics and Computational Thought

The relationship between aesthetics and computation is complex. In this talk, M. Beatrice Fazi will argue for the necessity to approach this complexity from an ontological perspective. Such an ontological perspective requires us to tackle, philosophically, the discrepancy between the continuity of sensation and the discreteness of digital technology. In this proposed view, aesthetics concerns creation and reality’s potential for self-actualisation. Fazi’s claim is that aesthetics is a viable mode of addressing computing precisely because such potential is inherent to the axiomatic structures of computation. Addressing the onto-aesthetic generative capacity of computational systems will also involve considering the possibility to rework the computational beyond the assumption that the latter

is a mere epistemic reduction of reality. The aesthetic investigation of computational technologies thus opens up to questions about the automation of thought and its epistemological autonomy.

22.10. 2019

19:00 – 20:30

Hannah Schoch: Martine Syms: Politics of Gender and Race under the Digital

Martine Syms *Lessons I-CLXXX* (2014-ongoing) will serve as a starting point to investigate the implications of the regime of the digital for representations of race and gender. What are the images of blackness that we are ubiquitously (not) circulating, internalizing, normalizing? Considering that data and algorithm, key facets of the digital, are primarily systems of classification, in how far has the digital simply perpetuated the same regimes of thinking (of racism and patriarchy) under the guise of the new, the neutral?

23.10. 2019

11:00 – 12:30

Felix Stalder: Hacking as an Artistic Strategy

For the purpose of the talk, I interpret "beyond digital" as the extension of the digital logic – that of highly coded, feedback-driven systems – beyond the realm of digital machines into society as whole, across the full range of materialities. From this starting point, I will investigate the issue of artistic freedom, contrasting a more conventional notion of artistic freedom with one based on the experience of hackers.

23.10. 2019

14:30 – 16:00

Michael Mayer: Homo Oeconomicus Ludens

Obschon das Initiationswerk der mathematischen Spieltheorie – John von Neumann und Oskar Morgensterns *Theory of Games and Economic Behavior* (1944) – bereits im Titel den Zusammenhang zwischen Spieltheorie und Ökonomie unzweideutig zum Ausdruck bringt, scheint man ihm in *Game Studies* wie *Computerspielforschung* bislang nur marginale Aufmerksamkeit geschenkt zu haben. Unter dem provisorischen Titel des *Homo Oeconomicus Ludens* möchte ich diesen Zusammenhang genauer erkunden und ihn in die Geschichte und Genealogie der Ökonomie zurückstellen und damit als letzte Etappe einer durchgängigen Ökonomisierung des Sozialen diskutieren.

Der Vortrag findet auf Deutsch statt.