

Call for Papers

The 4th Annual Conference of the Society for Cultural Studies (Kulturwissenschaftliche Gesellschaft): "Aesthetic Praxis and Cultural Studies Research", Hildesheim (11-13/10/2018) | <https://www.uni-hildesheim.de/kulturpraxis/kwg18>

Panel

The Aesthetics of Borders in Transcultural Spaces and Life-Worlds

A common panel of the KWG Sections "Cultural Border Studies" and "Transcultural Life-Worlds"

Amidst the growth of international mobility, technological progress, ongoing migration and the rise of populism, borders once more stand at the centre of academic debate. In light of this contemporary interest, it has become evident that borders – as opposed to the often simplified representations of them in public discourse – are better understood not so much as static and objective but as products of historical circumstances, and the outcome of different social and cultural processes. This approach of "Doing B/Orders", which focuses on the lived experientiality of borders and difference including transcultural border crossings – e.g. in imagined or mediated border spaces, or in the context of processes of inclusion and exclusion –, will be explored in this panel in connection with the concept of "aesthetic praxis".

This link between borders and aesthetic praxis shall shift the focus, in particular, onto sensory-aesthetic manifestations of "Doing B/Orders" in transcultural life-worlds, as they emerge in daily life, in the media and in art. In accordance with the overarching theme of the conference, aesthetic praxis encompasses various forms of cultural practice that are characterized above all by creativity, expressiveness and performativity. A transcultural outlook focuses on culturally constructed borders and their associated practices, cultural hybridization, interweaving and interconnectedness, as well as the deconstruction of static categories and approaches relating to borders. Lastly, it includes the dynamics of negotiation and shifting of the "borders" of aesthetic praxis itself.

Discussion of these processes of "B/Ordering" can include, but is not restricted to, consideration of the following aspects:

- **Materialisation:** "B/Ordering" processes inscribe themselves upon objects and bodies, and in so doing they can transform them.
- **Knowledge:** "B/Ordering" processes employ, produce and shift circulating forms of knowledge and meaning, which can become effective performatively.
- **Asymmetries:** "B/Ordering" processes imply asymmetrical relations of power, which can spread in unexpected ways.
- **Dynamics:** "B/Ordering" processes can include the interplay between the establishment and shifting, as well as the overcoming and hybridisation, of borders and difference.
- **Relationships:** "B/Ordering" processes are situated within a specific space and time.

Proposals for presentations from the various areas of Cultural Studies are encouraged to address as many of the listed aspects of "B/Ordering" as possible in the areas of daily life, the media and art. In addition, the proposed talks should reflect a transcultural approach either to the adopted theoretical framework or the analysis of transcultural spaces and life-worlds.

Proposals (in English or German) should include the following information:

- Presentation title
- 4-5 Keywords
- Contact details: University, Institute, Email, Telephone, Postal Address
- Abstract (3,000 characters, including spaces)

Please send the proposals by **July 30th 2018** to **all** of the panel organisers (see **Contact** below).
The working languages of the panel will be English and German.

Contact

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