

THEORY AND PRACTICE  
OF SELF-EMPOWERMENT IN THE AGE  
OF DIGITAL CONTROL

# as darkness falls

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE | SAT, 25 JANUARY – SUN, 26 JANUARY 2014  
VOLKSBUHNE AM ROSA-LUXEMBURG-PLATZ BERLIN

The conference **As Darkness Falls** reflects on the growing scepticism toward a security society which monitors all areas of life around the clock and encroaches on the remaining and unclaimed niches where freedom is still possible. ■ At the invitation of the German Federal Cultural Foundation, high-ranking philosophers, artists, social scientists and computer programmers will address the pressing questions of our time on three stages at the Berlin Volksbühne. What politically emancipatory strategies could counteract the control mechanisms of a security society? Do we need stronger democratic supervision of protected spaces? How do we reconcile new forms of privacy with digitally aided practices of political participation? What action should we, as citizens, take? ■ On the opening day, the participants will address the main narrative of the conference in three steps. In the **Critique of Wakefulness** the conference will take issue with the fight against institutions of a security society. In the **Politics of Sleep** the discussion will focus on and illuminate the problematic nature of free and protected spaces where one can withdraw and de-network. And finally, the participants will reassess what **Freedom in the Age of the Network** truly means and discuss security by the people for the people. ■ On the second day, the main narrative continues in the form of meta-commentaries, excursus and epilogues based on the slogans **Becoming Sleepers** and **It Is Time for New Openings**. In addition to lectures, discussions and panels, the programme includes scenic readings, film presentations and performances. Workshop programmes titled **Protecting Private Data, Using Public Data** on Saturday and **Self-empowerment 24/7** on Sunday will provide participants the opportunity to discuss the issues at eye level.

## Information

### VENUE

Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz | Liniestraße 227 | 10178 Berlin  
www.volksbuehne-berlin.de

### CONFERENCE LANGUAGES | LIVESTREAM

The conference will be held in German, English and French. The programme in the Sternfoyer will be offered in simultaneous German and English translation. A continuous livestream of the lectures and discussions in the Sternfoyer will be broadcasted online at [einbruch-der-dunkelheit.de](http://einbruch-der-dunkelheit.de)

### TICKETS

**1-day ticket** 5 EUR | 3 EUR concession rate

**2-day ticket** 8 EUR | 5 EUR concession rate

To order tickets call +49 30. 24 06 57 77 or send an e-mail to:

[ticket@volksbuehne-berlin.de](mailto:ticket@volksbuehne-berlin.de). Tickets can also be purchased at the ticket counter of the Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz

As space is limited, we kindly ask you to register in advance by e-mail if you wish to participate in the workshops: [dunkelheit@sauerbrey-raabe.de](mailto:dunkelheit@sauerbrey-raabe.de)

### INFORMATION | WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

sauerbrey | raabe . büro für kulturelle angelegenheiten

Erkelenzdamm 59–61 | 10999 Berlin

TEL +49 30. 61 10 73 77 | [dunkelheit@sauerbrey-raabe.de](mailto:dunkelheit@sauerbrey-raabe.de)

## Imprint

### As Darkness Falls. Theory & Practice of Self-Empowerment in the Age of Digital Control

An event by the German Federal Cultural Foundation in  
cooperation with Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz Berlin

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# Saturday, 25 January 2014

12 to 12:30 pm **STERNFOYER**

## OPENING

**Welcoming speech** by Hortensia Völckers . Executive board/  
Artistic director German Federal Cultural Foundation **Introduction**  
by Krystian Woznicki . berlinergazette.de › **GER | ENGL**

12:30 to 2 pm **STERNFOYER**

## THE FIGHT FOR RIGHTS AND A CRITICISM OF IDEOLOGY: SELF-EMPOWERMENT IN THE AGE OF DIGITAL CONTROL

**Lecture** by Evgeny Morozov . author **Response** by  
Jan Philipp Albrecht . politician **Moderated** by René Aguigah .  
journalist › **ENGL | GER**

2:15 to 3:30 pm **STERNFOYER**

## DIGITAL WAKEFULNESS AND THE RIGHT TO FORGET

**Lecture** by Johannes Masing . judge **Response** by Anke  
Domscheit-Berg . politician | Frank Rieger . activist **Moderated** by  
Philip Banse . media journalist › **GER | ENGL**

3:45 to 5 pm **STERNFOYER**

## UNAVOIDABLE PUBLICITY OF THE SUBJECT?

**Lecture** by Volker Gerhardt . philosopher **Response** by Jens  
Best . web activist **Moderated** by Philip Banse . media journalist  
› **GER | ENGL**

6:15 to 7:30 pm **STERNFOYER**

## THIS NUMBER IS DISCONNECTED: STRATEGIES FOR DE-NETWORKING

**Lecture** by Urs Stäheli . sociologist **Response** by Eleanor  
Saitta . security expert **Moderated** by René Aguigah . journalist  
› **ENGL | GER**

7:45 to 9:15 pm **STERNFOYER**

## POLITICS OF SLEEP

**Discussion** with Marcia Cavalcante . philosopher | Matthew  
Wolf-Meyer . anthropologist | Thierry Paquot . philosopher  
**Moderated** by René Aguigah . journalist  
› **FR | ENGL | GER**

9:45 to 11 pm **STERNFOYER**

## FREEDOM IN THE AGE OF NETWORKS AND SURVEILLANCE

**Lecture** by Bruce Sterling . futurist **Response** by  
Mercedes Bunz . cultural studies scholar **Moderated** by Philip  
Banse . media journalist › **ENGL | GER**

11 pm **ROTER SALON**

## RECEPTION AND PARTY

**With** record entertainer Niki Matita and  
**film presentation** »Sleep« (Andy Warhol)

## WORKSHOPS @ HYBRID WORKSPACE

10:30 am to 12 pm  
**HYBRID WORKSPACE @ ROTER SALON**

## WELCOME TO THE ANONYMISING NETWORK!

**Workshop** with Jacob Appelbaum . activist **Moderated** by  
Sabrina Apitz . berlinergazette.de › **ENGL**

2 to 3:30 pm  
**HYBRID WORKSPACE @ ROTER SALON**

## IS THERE SUCH A THING AS PRIVATE DATA ANYMORE?

**Workshop** with Julius Tröger . data journalist **Moderated** by  
Magdalena Taube . berlinergazette.de › **GER**

6:15 to 7:45 pm  
**HYBRID WORKSPACE @ ROTER SALON**

## ACTIVISM AND ANONYMITY

**Workshop** with Asteris Masouras . blogger **Moderated** by  
Sabrina Apitz . berlinergazette.de › **ENGL**

# Sunday, 26 January 2014

2:15 to 3:15 pm **3. STOCK**

## MINERVA'S CURSE: THE SLEEPLESSNESS OF REASON PRODUCES MONSTERS

**Lecture-concert** by the performance collective andcompany&Co.  
› **GER**

3:30 to 4 pm **3. STOCK**

## ENSCAPE, OR HIDE AND SLEEP IN PUBLIC

**Slide show lecture** by Mario Sixtus . blogger, photographer |  
Nadia Zaboura . communication studies scholar › **GER**

3:30 to 4:45 pm **STERNFOYER**

## LIGHT POWERS: VISUAL MATURITY AND AUTHORITY-FREE IMAGES

**Lecture** by Dietmar Dath . author | Swantje Karich . author  
**Moderated** by Tilman Baumgärtel . author  
› **GER | ENGL**

4:15 to 5:15 pm **3. STOCK**

## DOES THE HEART OF DARKNESS LIE IN YOUR CITY?

**Lecture and film presentation** by Christoph Hochhäusler .  
director **Moderated** by Cristina Nord . journalist › **GER**

5 to 6:30 pm **STERNFOYER**

## TRANSPARENCY: WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM MANNING, ASSANGE AND SNOWDEN?

**Discussion** with Christoph Bieber . political studies scholar |  
Micah L. Sifry . sociologist | Jacob Appelbaum . activist **Moderated**  
by Tilman Baumgärtel . author › **ENGL | GER**

5:30 to 6 pm **3. STOCK**

## HOUSE OF HALLUCINATIONS

**Reading** by Axel Wandtke . actor  
from Lars Popp's novel »Haus der Halluzinationen« › **GER**

6:45 to 7:45 pm **STERNFOYER**

## LIGHT REGULATION: FROM TOP-DOWN VISIBILITY TO BOTTOM-UP TRANSPARENCY

**Lecture** by Felix Stalder . media theorist **Moderated** by Tilman  
Baumgärtel . author › **ENGL | GER**

8 to 9:30 pm **STERNFOYER**

## GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK – A CONFERENCE REVIEW

**Discussion** with Christoph Kappes . web pioneer, consultant |  
Robert Pfaller . philosopher | Marina Weisband . author **Moderated**  
by René Aguigah . journalist › **GER | ENGL**

## WORKSHOPS @ HYBRID WORKSPACE

12 to 2 pm  
**HYBRID WORKSPACE @ ROTER SALON**

## THE OBSCURITY OF LANGUAGE

**Workshop** with Federico Ferrari . philosopher **Moderated** by  
Sabrina Apitz . berlinergazette.de › **FR | GER**

2:30 to 3:30 pm  
**HYBRID WORKSPACE @ ROTER SALON**

## UNLIMITED SELF-QUANTIFICATION?

**Workshop** with Heike Hennig . choreographer  
**Moderated** by Sabrina Apitz . berlinergazette.de › **GER**

4 to 5:30 pm  
**HYBRID WORKSPACE @ ROTER SALON**

## LABORATORY OF DARKNESS: MELANCHOLIA & CODE

**Workshop** with Anwen Roberts . science journalist  
**Moderated** by Sabrina Apitz . berlinergazette.de › **GER**