

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

**as
darkness
falls**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

25/26 JANUARY 2014

VOLKSBUHNE

AM ROSA-LUXEMBURG-PLATZ BERLIN

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

aturday, 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 page 16

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 page 16

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
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6:15 to 7:30 pm STERNFOYER

THIS NUMBER IS DISCONNECTED: STRATEGIES FOR DE-NETWORKING

Lecture by Urs Stäheli . sociologist **Response** by Eleanor
Saïta . security expert **Moderated** by René Aguigah . journalist
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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 page 19

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 page 20

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 page 26

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 page 27

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 page 28

unday, 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.
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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 page 21

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
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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 page 23

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 page 23

5:30 to 6 pm 3. STOCK

HOUSE OF HALLUCINATIONS

Reading by Axel Wandtke . actor
from Lars Popp's novel »Haus der Halluzinationen« › GER page 24

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 page 25

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 page 26

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 page 28

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 page 29

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 page 30

FOREWORD BY THE GERMAN FEDERAL CULTURAL FOUNDATION

**THE BELIEF IN THE VIRTUE OF
SPREADING KNOWLEDGE
GOES BACK TO THE TIMES OF
THE ENLIGHTENMENT.
IT IS INSEPARABLY LINKED TO
THE RISE OF MODERN SOCIETY.
HOWEVER, THE PERSPECTIVE
AND SIGNIFICANCE OF
ENLIGHTENMENT HAVE CHANGED
IN THE DIGITAL AGE.**

In electronic networks, the classical concept of enlightenment has merged with that of military and police intelligence, based on suspicion, surveillance and control. Today we ask ourselves uneasily whether the accumulation of more and more information might be endangering, rather than strengthening, our freedom and our autonomy. Indeed, our knowledge and communication are transmitted almost entirely via cables, over which we have no control. And the authorities, who do control them, do not always appear to be pursuing liberal or democratic interests. ■ In French, the »Age of Enlightenment« is called »le Siècle des Lumières« – literally, the »century of lights«. Could it be that this circulation and accumulation of knowledge, the permanent collection, analysis, monitoring and scanning have ›blessed‹ us with too much light? Could it be that this light endangers areas of darkness – namely, our secrets and protected spheres of privacy – which are absolutely indispensable for the function of free society? And on the other hand, could new ›darknesses‹ exist – machinations by corporations and secret services, which are at least equally threatening? ■ We thank Krystian Woznicki and the team at Berliner Gazette who have helped us with developing and organising this conference and who, as experts and interpreters of digital culture, dared to take an expansive view. We also extend our thanks to the dramaturge Sabine Zielke and all the employees of Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz Berlin who helped organise a multi-disciplinary forum which brings theorists and practitioners, optimistic advocates and sceptical critics of digital culture together to tables and on podiums to think and debate. And more importantly, to find out what we must do ›as darkness falls‹.

Hortensia Völckers Executive Board | Artistic Director

Alexander Farenholtz Executive Board | Administrative Director

fear of the dark

AS DARKNESS FALLS THEORY & PRACTICE OF SELF-EMPOWERMENT IN THE AGE OF DIGITAL CONTROL

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? Is the desire for a private sphere merely regressive escapism or can it truly lead to greater freedom? 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. The problem is that the civil sector, demanding more transparency, appears to be reverting to the same security-based means to achieve it. 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.

feared of
the dark

CRITIQUE OF WAKEFULNESS: FREEDOM, TRANSPARENCY, SURVEILLANCE

Sat | 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
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Sat | 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
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The Internet offers us enormous freedom. However, to enjoy this freedom, we must be willing to accept the technical standards and social forms which constitute this world. And as an increasing number of functional areas of society migrate to the web, what was once an opportunity of access has become an obligation to always be connected. The networked user lives in a state of digital wakefulness every day, around the clock, to the point of exhaustion. The question is whether such a lifestyle poses a threat to our freedom. But even radical critics of economic, political and social circumstances in the network

society regard digital wakefulness as an indisputable given. ■ Consequently, the Critique of Wakefulness directs the intellectual energy of the opposition to exactly these unchallenged preconditions. On one hand, the discussion takes issue with the emancipatory promise of so-called watchful eye projects, as well as counter-surveillance conducted by civic watch groups. On the other hand, there is a need to examine whether promising open-government initiatives actually reproduce the same pattern of surveillance as the participation in social networks. Does the permanently active, all-round participative network-observer structurally reveal just as much as the permanently active, all-round participative post-privacy user who voluntarily divulges his/her personal details? Isn't it time to shift the focus to strengthening the right to not being watched and the right to forget? Are these rights reconcilable with digital wakefulness? If so, how could they be anchored through legal means? And more importantly, how could we achieve societal consensus on this matter?

POLITICS OF SLEEP: FREEDOM, PROTECTION, DE-NETWORKING

Sat | 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
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Sat | 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
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While people long ago slept soundly knowing that the night watch was guarding the city gate, modern security measures fail to do the same. In fact, they intentionally lead to more insecurity (to legitimate themselves) and rapidly merge with a 24/7 flow of information which does more to disturb than ensure a sound sleep. In today's society, the goal is to reap the benefits from monitoring people and their actions around the clock: wakefulness prevails, while sleep is regarded as a hindrance. If the social contract, which guarantees citizens protection and care in exchange for freedom, has to be renegotiated today, the politics of sleep also has to reassess

the social and political dimension of this condition and use it as the basis for a new contract. From this perspective, the conference not only regards sleep as the final residuum of the pre-modern era, but also the last refuge in a transparent society, and shifts it to the centre of a social, political and philosophical debate. Could sleep serve as a platform for social change due to its ability to interrupt the 24/7 continuum? Or is sleep in danger of succumbing to it like everything else? ■ In our discussion, sleep is regarded as a state of consciousness which is almost completely disconnected from the regime of digital wakefulness and offers a space for wishes, visions and possibilities. In other words, sleep is an activity which not only offers freedom, but also enables people to imagine freedom in new ways, so that when awake, they can craft it through their actions under politically effective conditions. The discussion on sleep offers a starting point for debates about spaces of protection and de-networking, and about which strategies and policies would promote these. Last but not least, it opens up new critical perspectives on the ideologies of digital society.

FREEDOM IN THE AGE OF NETWORKS AND SURVEILLANCE

Sat | 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 Aiguah . journalist

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Sat | 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

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The digital world appears flat – like a single, brightly illuminated surface. In this world, the difference between freedom and security no longer applies – there is only security. Nowadays, we can hardly distinguish between those who exercise their freedom to collect and publicly share their private data and those external organisations which mine the web for such data through classical surveillance methods. Those who voluntarily leave a trail of personal data on the Internet are inadvertent partners of private-business and state ‘data crunchers’ which monitor these activities. The concept of digital freedom – that a user has the power to allow his / her personal data to be used or shared – is actually an illusion that circulates throughout this flat world. This illusion is becoming more

real with the growing inability of an ever increasing share of the population to understand – even intuitively – the technological functions and relationships. In order to exercise the right to informational self-determination and make it politically effective, people have to show an interest in what happens behind the increasingly simplified user interfaces. In short, people must show interest not only in the front end where users interact and where autonomous action is reduced to the choices offered in the interface programmed by others, but also in the unattractive and complex underside of the digital world – the back end, to which only the owners and administrators have access. On the one side, there is the visible information, and on the other, the inconceivable masses of data which evade access. ■ As our understanding of the digital world increases, we become aware of the central constraints on freedom which prevail today. It is here we begin to recognise the illusions of self-determination and think about freedom in a new way. How autonomous can freedom be today? What might »grass-roots« security look like? What rights will we have to fight for to attain it?

BECOMING SLEEPERS

Sun | 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** page 20

Sun | 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

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Sun | 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

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

HOUSE OF HALLUCINATIONS

Reading by Axel Wandtke . actor

from Lars Popp's novel »Haus der Halluzinationen«

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Be it day or night, our consciousness changes when we dream. Reality shifts to the background, and our thoughts and dream bodies enter a different world. A world of possibilities. Waking up does not necessarily mean the abrupt end of a dream, but can hold the promise of another reality which we have salvaged from our dream. But how do we become sleepers? ■ A journey down-river to the heart of darkness, a data current of multimedia chains of association in combination with abstract thoughts. On the third floor of the Volksbühne, a shimmering world takes shape, in which the boundary between wakefulness and slumber continually fades and reforms.

IT IS TIME FOR NEW OPENINGS

Sun | 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

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Sun | 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

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Sun | 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

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Sun | 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 Agutgah . journalist

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The light of power aims to technically analyse masses of data and establish a regime of security and control. However, the light of power also has the function of blinding people and giving them the impression that there are no alternatives – neither socially desirable spheres of darkness nor powers of light which promote freedom and self-empowerment. To change this, the totality of light must be broken – with openings to new approaches of critical thought and action. ■ The last thematic thread of the conference identifies these insightful interruptions in image strategies of visual culture and in the major counter-transparency offensives waged by Internet activists.

PROTECTING PRIVATE DATA, USING PUBLIC DATA

Sat | 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 page 26

Sat | 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

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Sat | 6:15 to 7:45 pm

HYBRID WORKSPACE @ ROTER SALON

ACTIVISM AND ANONYMITY

Workshop with Asteris Masouras . blogger

Moderated by Sabrina Apitz . berlinergazette.de

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From Big Data to data journalism to the data-political considerations of current protest movements – the contemporary practice of wakefulness is based on a multifaceted interpretation of data. Consequently, it is important to carefully assess those all too frequent calls for sweeping data protection. When it comes to protective spaces which society requires, we must come up with a new definition that differentiates between private and public data. And that based on practical examples in the context of science, journalism and activism.

SELF-EMPOWERMENT 24/7

Sun | 12 to 2 pm

HYBRID WORKSPACE @ ROTER SALON

THE OBSCURITY OF LANGUAGE

Workshop with Federico Ferrari . philosopher
Moderated by Sabrina Apitz . berlinergazette.de

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Sun | 2:30 to 3:30 pm

HYBRID WORKSPACE @ ROTER SALON

UNLIMITED SELF-QUANTIFICATION?

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

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Sun | 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

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Privacy, anonymity and de-networking are inconceivable without techniques and technologies of self-determination. Therefore, it is necessary to expand certain spheres; language, body and mind can serve as vehicles for individuality and personality, as well as for experiencing community and solidarity in the depths of digital networks.

i have
a constant
fear that
something's

Saturday | 12:30 to 2 pm STERNOYER

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 Aaguiah . journalist

We have been witnessing a one-dimensional defensive battle for years. Civil rights activists are constantly opposing new forms of digital surveillance, yet they themselves are caught up in ethical arguments against powerful security considerations. Against this background, the opening lecture of the conference examines whether we must rather adapt our ideas of freedom and security to changing technical developments and circumstances. What does freedom really mean in an age of complete transparency? What freedoms are worth defending nowadays and in which areas do we stand to regain autonomy? Is it simply an illusion to believe that the individual can control the spread and use of his or her personal data?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Evgeny Morozov is an author and media theorist, originally from Belarus and now a resident of the USA. His critical commentaries and analyses regarding Internet development have been translated and published in leading Western news media. Morozov is critical of the predominant faith in technology, in particular the naive assumption that the Internet is inherently democratic and is capable of promoting political change in authoritarian states by itself. **Follow Evgeny Morozov on Twitter:** [@evgenymorozov](#)

Jan Philipp Albrecht is one of the junior members of the German delegation of representatives (The Greens/EFA faction) in the European Parliament. He studied Legal Informatics and is now a member of the committee for internal and legal affairs and is substantially involved in the negotiations on EU data protection reform. **Follow Jan Philipp Albrecht on Twitter:** [@JanAlbrecht](#)

Saturday | 2:15 to 3:30 pm STERNOYER

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

Digital networks provide us with a broad range of new freedoms. Such freedoms come with a price, however, namely that we are permanently on call to send and

receive. The question is whether our freedom is actually endangered by living in digital wakefulness, dictated by a power that has the ability to make everything transparent, whose highest priority and preferred legitimisation is security – and not freedom. The fact that even activists see digital wakefulness as their most effective tool against data theft and a security society arouses suspicion: Could it be that the constantly active, all-round participative figures of digital wakefulness – be it the voluntary self-exhibitor or the critical observer – are equally self-revealing in terms of structure? Isn't it perhaps high time to reflect on one's right to forget instead of continually expanding the predominant system of surveillance, recording and archiving from all sides? How could such a right be anchored through legal means?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Johannes Masing is a professor of Public Law at the University of Freiburg. As a judge of the German Federal Constitutional Court, he is responsible for cases concerning freedom of the press, the right to demonstrate and data protection. He is a regular op-ed contributor to numerous periodicals including the Süddeutsche Zeitung.

Anke Domscheit-Berg is a German entrepreneur (founder of fempower.me and opengov.me), former lobbyist for Microsoft and a politician in the Pirate Party. She is committed to promoting open government and professional opportunities for female managers. She is regularly invited to German talk shows as an expert for network-political issues. **Follow Anke Domscheit-Berg on Twitter:** [@anked](#)

Frank Rieger is a non-fiction writer, regular contributor to the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and spokesperson for the Chaos Computer Club. Together with Constanze Kurz, he has edited a number of highly-acclaimed books, e.g. »Die Datenfresser: Wie Internetfirmen und Staat sich unsere persönlichen Daten einverleiben und wie wir die Kontrolle darüber zurückerlangen« [The Data Crunchers: How Internet Companies and the Government Devour Our Personal Data and How We Can Regain Control of It] in 2011, and most recently »Arbeitsfrei: Eine Entdeckungsreise zu den Maschinen, die uns ersetzen« [Work-Free: A Journey of Discovery to the Machines Which Are Replacing Us] in 2013. **Follow Frank Rieger on Twitter:** [@frank_rieger](#)

Saturday | 3:45 to 5 pm STERNOYER

UNAVOIDABLE PUBLICITY OF THE SUBJECT?

Lecture by Volker Gerhardt . philosopher **Response by** Jens Best . web activist

Moderated by Philip Banse . media journalist

According to Volker Gerhardt, man is a »homo publicus«, for whom publicity of thought and speech are the basic precondition for all communicative and, by extension, social and political activity. Gerhardt claims that privacy and subjectivity, as (vital) resources of retreat and renewal, derive from this constitutive state of publicity (or transparency), of each individual's consciousness (and are not

precedent to it as is tacitly suggested in current debates). What consequences could such a model of ›pre-privacy‹ – i.e. the precedence of the public before the private sphere – have for political debate concerning the future of digital society? What does this mean for the term transparency as a democratic instrument of control in line with the classical definitions of enlightenment and publicity?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Volker Gerhardt is a professor of Philosophy at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and is widely recognised for his diverse journalistic endeavours and participation in democratic advising committees, such as the German Ethics Council. In his most recent book, published in 2012 and titled ›Öffentlichkeit – Die politische Form des Bewusstseins‹ [Publicity – The Political Form of Consciousness], Gerhardt describes the individual as a ›homo publicus‹, who, in the basic concept of the collective, is part of society and only in ›special cases‹ may retreat as the subject.

Jens Best is a widely respected speaker, writer, blogger, commentator and advisor in the digital sphere. In Germany, he gained national recognition for his support of the Google Streetview service. Best works as a senior strategy consultant in the areas of digital transformation and social media. He argues that the expanded digital media forms of communication provide the basis for new opportunities for collaboration and participation in all social fields. **Follow Jens Best on Twitter:** [@jensbest](#)

Saturday | 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

The neon lights of the big city, the neon lights of cyberspace – both have been competing for attention for more than a decade. Ever since the triumph of mobile devices, the Internet is all-pervasive and omnipresent. The overlap never stops – nor does the illumination of both worlds. What we need now are strategies for de-networking. There are those who intentionally chisel cracks in the smooth-running processes of illumination and create spaces of retreat where it is possible to take time out. When it comes to updating and re-identifying the concept of the ›interrupted being‹, the technological and techno-political conditions of de-networking also become apparent. Can (temporary) disconnectedness in the sense of an emancipatory gesture of renunciation à la ›I prefer not to‹ as uttered by Melville's ›Bartleby‹, represent a socio-political interruption of the 24/7 continuum and serve as a platform for social change? Or do we face the threat of immediate reclamation?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Urs Stäheli is a professor of General Sociology at the University of Hamburg. One of his main areas of research is the impact of media technologies on society and the economy. He originally came up with the

paradigm of de-networking in connection with the stock market crash, caused by computer-controlled trade. His most recent essay ›Entnetzt Euch!‹ [De-Network Yourself!] appeared in *Mittelweg*, the journal published by the Hamburg Institute for Social Research.

Eleanor Saitta is a designer, artist, hacker and researcher, who intensively examines the interactions of Internet networking, the penetration of digital technologies in all areas of life and modern capitalism. As the co-founder of the Trike Project, a public forum for hackers and programmers in Seattle, she is involved in numerous projects which promote open source, hacker culture and alternative, secure connection modes on the Internet, such as OpenITP, Calyx Institute, CAST and Briar Project.

Follow Eleanor Saitta on Twitter: [@dymaxion](#)

Saturday | 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

Long ago people slept soundly knowing that the night watch was guarding the city gate. Modern security measures, on the other hand, fail to do the same. In fact, they intentionally lead to more insecurity (to legitimate themselves) and rapidly merge with a 24/7 flow of information which regards sleep as a hindrance. If the social contract, which has guaranteed citizens protection and care (especially at night), is terminated by one of the parties and has to be renegotiated, then the politics of sleep will have to reassess the social and political dimension of this state of rest and use it as the basis for a new contract. What exactly is sleep today and what social significance is attributed to it? Is it perhaps the last refuge for the non-productive individual? Or has sleep already become an optimised tool which pharmaceutical and technological firms can capitalise on?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Marcia Cavalcante is a professor of Philosophy at Södertörn University in Stockholm and has written numerous articles on philosophical hermeneutics. The central points of reference in her reflections are works by Maurice Blanchot and Jean-Luc Nancy.

Thierry Paquot is a philosopher, professor and editor of the journal *Urbanisme*. He has published numerous books on urban development, architecture and modern utopias. His most recent publication ›The Art of the Siesta‹ was released in 2012.

Matthew Wolf-Meyer is a professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He was one of the first academics to conduct systematic, interdisciplinary research on the subject of sleep from an anthropological view. His book ›The Slumbering Masses: Sleep, Medicine and Modern American Life‹ (2012) describes how sleep is becoming medically optimised in today's society.

Follow Matthew Wolf-Meyer on Twitter: [@M_Wolf_Meyer](#)

Saturday | 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

The desire for invisibility is greater today than ever before as demonstrated by the recent uproar following the disclosures by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden. We want to hide and be anonymous. We want privacy and concealment. In short, we want darkness in an age of total transparency and visibility. In the past, such a wish was only attainable by cypherpunks who made encryption of digital communication an art form. Today, all of society should be able to fulfil this wish. Intellectuals preach ›digital maturity‹. The mass media offers its audience alternative chat, cloud and e-mail systems which supposedly make it possible for anyone to enjoy new forms of privacy. But can these products truly meet the need to erect barriers of privacy? How much darkness can we really attain nowadays? And can individual strategies of retreat be applied to all of society?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Bruce Sterling is a writer, journalist and futurologist. Sterling's award-winning novel ›Islands in the Net‹ (1988) depicts a model of digital dissidence and envisions ›dark‹ areas in the web as islands, in other words, as emancipatory spaces. In preparing for his novel about 9/11, ›The Zenith Angle‹ (2004), Sterling conducted intensive field research at government institutions like the FBI, NSA and CIA.

Mercedes Bunz is a cultural and media studies scholar. She is an instructor at the Centre for Digital Cultures at Leuphana University in Lüneburg. Since 1997, she has worked as the editor of the monthly magazine DE:BUG for electronic aspects of life, which she co-founded. For a time, she also served as editor-in-chief of Tagesspiegel.de and the Berlin cultural magazine Zitty. In 2009, she was hired by Alan Rusbridger to be the media editor at the Guardian. She earned her doctorate in 2008 with a dissertation entitled ›Geschichte des Internet: vom Speicher zum Verteiler‹ [The History of the Internet: From Storage to Distributor]. **Follow Mercedes Bunz on Twitter:** [@MrsBunz](https://twitter.com/MrsBunz)

Sunday | 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.

When did white people start seeing themselves as white? Slavery resulted in the development of its own metaphorical imagery as the ›dark side‹ of emancipation during the Enlightenment. The most recent example of this is Europe, where the

perception of Africa as the ›dark continent‹ remains an unclosed chapter of colonial times. In his novel ›Heart of Darkness‹, Joseph Conrad found darkness not in the Congo, but rather on the River Thames in London, and Freud located the ›dark continent‹ in the strange land within – the subconscious. With reference to Hegel, the performance collective andcompany&Co. calls it ›Minerva's Curse‹. Could it be that ›wakefulness‹ is merely the expression of a political paranoia akin to that of totalitarian regimes of the 20th century? Due to fear of terrorism, we see the same paranoia taking root in democratic countries in the 21st century. Could the cultural asset of the ›siesta‹ possess the potential to interrupt the efficiency, performativity and self-portrayal of Puritanical capitalism with its sole focus on financial profit which has campaigned against sleep, leisure and the good life for centuries? Making reference to the legendary Hegel interpreter Alexandre Kojève and his most recent exegete Giorgio Agamben, andcompany&Co. creates new links and sheds light on the dark and hidden through siesta activism, the ›Latin empire‹, the dark side of Enlightenment and the complicity of the Invisible Committee. Audiences can look forward to a relentless mix of entertainment and historic facts.

ABOUT ANDCOMPANY&CO.

The international performance collective andcompany&Co. was founded by Alexander Karschnia, Nicola Nord und Sascha Sulimma in 2003 in Frankfurt am Main. Working together as co-directors, they have established an open network which always welcomes collaboration with new artists from the most diverse disciplines. Their productions are arsenals of 20th and 21st century history which snatch fragments of memory and assess them with regard to their added value.

Sunday | 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

›Perhaps enescape is for free people, what escape is for prisoners‹. This statement is the basis of a photo project by Mario Sixtus und Nadia Zaboura, titled ›enscape‹ which explores the delta between identity and objectivity by means of isolation, hide and seek, and synthesis. They offer a new perspective on the topical question as to where the individual fits in a world, fashioned for the masses and based on systems and structures. The photos taken during extended trips highlight the subjects of concealment, isolation and freedom. Yet in contrast to classical robinsonade, the isolated individuals in these pictures are not stranded on some deserted island, but live in the post-industrial, technologised, consumer-oriented world, with which we are all familiar. And they all express a decoupling

from this civilised piece of humanity. An act of de-networking within the network, slumber in public space.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Mario Sixtus is a journalist and author. He writes for various magazines and newspapers on current developments in the areas of the Internet, network culture and network politics. He is known for his video podcast »Elektrischer Reporter« on ZDF, as well as the TV commentary »Sixtus vs. Lobo« with Sascha Lobo, which was shown on 3sat. In 2012, Sixtus initiated the open blog project »WirHabenKeineAngst.de« [We Are Not Afraid] with which Internet users can counter the fear of terrorism and the tightened security which comes with it. He founded the photo project »enscape.de« together with Nadia Zaboura.

Follow Mario Sixtus on Twitter: @sixtus

Nadia Zaboura is a communication studies scholar, non-fiction writer and digital media consultant. She is currently a consultant for the cluster management organisation CREATIVE.NRW. She is also a member of the think-tank »Co:llaboratory on Internet and Society«, a juror of the Grimme Online Award and German Radio Award, and journalistic reporter for the »Hyperland« format at ZDF.

Follow Nadia Zaboura on Twitter: @nadia_z

Sunday | 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

Everywhere you look, there are images – on the wall, in your hand. The visual is in motion. Conventional criticism has many names for it – »simulation«, »cultural industry« and »spectacle«. Those who apply such phrases divide the world in two – the images on one side, and critical thinkers on the other. When it comes to images, though, there is no such thing as critical innocence. Those who deny it are barring the way to visual maturity. Because those who have attained visual maturity are able to think up images different from those in power. Can light be critically and subversively used to illuminate? What powers of light are not in the service of the surveillance society, but actually promote maturity? What do the experimental fields look like which are working toward a vigilant, new type of seeing beyond the transparency industry?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Dietmar Dath is an author, translator and journalist. He has written 15 novels, as well as numerous books and essays on scientific, aesthetic and political issues. His latest novel »Pulsarnacht« (2012) and a recent essay co-written with Swantje Karich, titled »Lichtmächte« (2013) explore central themes of the conference »As Darkness Falls«.

Swantje Karich is an art historian, art critic and editor with the Frankfurt Allgemeine Zeitung. She teaches »Curatorial Studies – Theory – History – Criticism« in Frankfurt/Main, and is a guest lecturer at the Institut für Kunst- und Bildgeschichte at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the Martin Luther University in Halle. **Follow Swantje Karich on Twitter:** @SwantjeKarich

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

DOES THE HEART OF DARKNESS LIE IN YOUR CITY?

Lecture and film presentation by Christoph Hochhäusler . film director

Moderated by Cristina Nord . journalist

In the film »Unter dir die Stadt« [The City Below], the financial crisis is somewhat like background noise in a story about people. Deceptive reflections provide most of the material in its portrayal of the financial crisis. Hochhäusler penetrates the glittering facades to reveal the end time of capitalism. In the translucent exteriors of banks, limousines and revolving doors, what one mostly sees is the mirrored reflection of the outside world – what lies behind remains hidden. In the banking sector, as in the life of every individual, it's all about assigning numbers to objects and people – so-called »ratings« – which automatically leads to »performance«. The focus is no longer on real people, but rather on their impact. Society is in a state of delusion, and the narrative continues in a mode of delirium. In the end, sleep conjures the moment when we wake up to a potentially different world.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Christoph Hochhäusler is a film director and author of the so called Berlin School. In addition to writing numerous pieces on cinema, he is the founder and co-editor of the film magazine Revolver. »Unter dir die Stadt« is his third feature film. It premiered at the Festival de Cannes in 2010 and received the award for Best Script at the Filmfest München.

Sunday | 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 . author | Jacob Appelbaum . activist

Moderated by Tilman Baumgärtel . author

Whistle-blowing sites like Wikileaks and the most recent disclosures by Edward Snowden concerning the »PRISM/TEMPORA« surveillance scandal have sparked a major public debate about the value of transparency for society and politics. Numerous projects (Open Data, vroniplag, lobbyplag, etc.) have benefited from the attention generated by this debate and have had a direct social impact, e.g. initiating a public debate on personal control of information and propagating the use of encryption technology. What these projects have in common is that they operate decentralised, make collective and loosely-related working contexts possible, digitally process large amounts of data and present them in an understandable way, and serve as a necessary corrective in shadowy political processes. It is high time to take an international, comparative perspective and investigate the status of discourse on the big story of transparency.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Jacob Appelbaum is an American Internet activist and specialist for computer security. As a hacker and programmer, he became known for his involvement in developing the anonymisation network Tor, as well as for his work for WikiLeaks. Appelbaum, who in his own words grew up in a family of »complete nutcases«, once remarked in an interview in Rolling Stone that the Internet is the only reason he is alive today. **Follow Jacob Appelbaum on Twitter:** [@ioerror](#)

Christoph Bieber is a professor of Ethics in Political Management at the University of Duisburg-Essen. His main areas of research are political communication and new media, Internet and democracy and comparative political studies. He is a founding board member of pol-di.net e.V, the organisation responsible for operating Politik-digital. **Follow Christoph Bieber on Twitter:** [@drbieber](#)

Micah L. Sifry is an American network expert and co-founder of the Personal Democracy Forum, which examines the impact of technical developments on political processes. He works as an editor for the award-winning blog »techPresident« and teaches at the Harvard Kennedy Law School. He is the author of numerous books and is particularly known for his work »WikiLeaks and the Age of Transparency« (2011). **Follow Micah L. Sifry on Twitter:** [@MIsif](#)

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

HOUSE OF HALLUCINATIONS

Reading with Axel Wandtke . actor from Lars Popp's novel »Haus der Halluzinationen«

The two faces of digitalisation, globalisation, and networking represent both the subject matter and form of the novel »Haus der Halluzinationen« [House of Hallucinations] published in autumn 2013. »It occurred to me that my speech or my silence, indeed any action of mine, would be mere futility.« (Joseph Conrad, »Heart of Darkness«). As we venture into the uncertain age of the Internet and globalisation, we recall Marlow's departure to the Congo. Inevitably rummaging about for meaning, we are confronted with questions regarding the relationship between nature and technology, order and chaos, light and enlightenment, obscurity and imagination. We come to realise that it is not (or no longer?)

possible to differentiate between these. And that there could be spaces of freedom which lie hidden within or between them. And in the end, a break-in and »blackout« occurs on Candlemas, symbolising the beginning of something new.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND THE ACTOR

Steffen Lars Popp is a freelance theatre director, author and dramaturge. Due to his various roles – and to make a little harder for data collectors to follow him – he uses a different name for each of his occupational fields: Steffen directs plays, Lars writes and Steffen Lars is responsible for the theoretical side. »Haus der Halluzinationen« is his first published novel.

Axel Wandtke is an actor and stage director. After completing his studies at the Ernst Busch Academy of Performing Art in Berlin, he began his acting career at the Deutsches Nationaltheater Weimar and the Deutsches Theater Berlin. He is currently a member of the ensemble of the Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz Berlin. Axel Wandtke has acted in and directed numerous theatre productions. He frequently plays roles in films and television, and has achieved success as a speaker in diverse radio play productions.

Sunday | 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

The political buzzword »transparency« has recently gained new relevance and volatility in our digitalised society. Confronted with an inscrutable global web of economic and political interests, citizens are demanding transparency from their governments and companies. These, however, are also pursuing strategies of transparency and surveillance to generate »transparent« citizens and customers and build up a system of cybernetic control. Stalder examines the two-sided meaning of transparency, starting with its inception in political and economic discourse of the 19th and 20th century up to its most recent expression under modern-day conditions, and calls for a new form of transparency. An appeal for a horizontally structured form of transparency!

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Felix Stalder lectures at the Zurich Academy of the Art on the subject of Digital Culture and Theories of Networking. His focus of research is on the interplay between society, culture and technologies, and in particular, the new forms of cultural production. He organised the international conferences »Deep Search« (2008/2010) and »World Information City« (2009). His essay »The Fight over Transparency – From a Hierarchical to a Horizontal Organisation« (2011) was recently published in the journal Open. **Follow Felix Stalder on Twitter:** [@stalfel](#)

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

This event brings the participants from all the main thematic areas (digital world, academia, sub-politics) together to subjectively assess the progress achieved in the previous two days of the conference. They will try to answer the central questions of the conference: What does freedom in the age of networks and surveillance mean? Is it basically a discourse of defence or perhaps also one of conquest? What would transparency and darkness look like in a healthy democracy? And how significant are these lines of discourse in our daily life when we apply them separately to the hours when we're awake and when we're asleep?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Christoph Kappes former CEO of Pixelpark and current managing director of fructus GmbH, has been involved with the financial and technical-conceptual aspects of digitalisation since 1993. For the past several years, he has written a number of articles on social issues for the FAZ and Merkur. He comes to the conference »As Darkness Falls« with knowledge he gained from participating in the co:lab research project on new forms of privacy which he headed in 2012.

Follow Christoph Kappes on Twitter: [@ChristophKappes](#)

Robert Pfaller is an Austrian philosopher. In 2009, he was appointed chair of Philosophy at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna. He has gained widespread attention for his book »Wofür es sich zu leben lohnt« [Why Life is Worth Living] published in 2009, in which he philosophically assesses the consequences of excessive control and optimisation on society.

Marina Weisband is a German politician, author and advocate for Internet freedom and political transparency. From 2011 to 2012, she was managing director and member of the federal board of the German Pirate Party. The experience she gained in this function provided the basis for her new book, »Wir nennen es Politik. Ideen für eine zeitgemäße Demokratie« [We Call It Politics. Ideas for a Modern Democracy], published in 2013. **Follow Marina Weisband on Twitter:** [@Afelia](#)

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Saturday | 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

In the post-Snowden world, it has become clear that the Internet – among other things – is one gigantic surveillance machine. Evading these omnipresent networks operated by the visibility industry is a goal pursued by Internet activists who are busy developing encryption and anonymisation tools. Tor (The Onion Router) is one such network for anonymising connection data. The software allows people to surf the web anonymously, making it impossible to trace the pages and sites they visited. In a sense, Tor is as much a privacy tool as it is a means to circumvent Internet censorship by autocratic regimes. But, as it is technically enabling users to move about the so-called ›dark web‹, it can also be used for any illegal purpose imaginable.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Jacob Appelbaum is an American Internet activist and specialist for computer security. As a hacker and programmer, he became known for his involvement in developing the anonymisation network Tor, as well as for his work for WikiLeaks. Appelbaum, who in his own words grew up in a family of ›complete nutcases‹, once remarked in an interview in Rolling Stone that the Internet is the only reason he is alive today. **Follow Jacob Appelbaum on Twitter:** [@ioerror](#)

Saturday | 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

»Open government« is synonymous with open access to the government and administration by the public and business sector. This can generate more transparency, more participation and a stronger interest in social issues. »Open data« signifies free availability and usability of data. Data journalism is not just about searching for information in databases, but rather collecting, processing and analysing publicly accessible information and publishing the findings in traditional journalistic media forms. How is it possible to achieve individual sovereignty in the spirit of darkness while revitalising democracy? This workshop with Julius Tröger explores the issue of protecting one's sources in a post-Snowden world and the importance of transparency as a democratic control mechanism.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Julius Tröger is a specialist in the field of multimedia- and data journalism. In 1998, he founded a regional online youth magazine. Since 2008, he has worked as editor for the Berlin Morgenpost and is primarily responsible for expanding multimedia, mobile and data-driven formats. He has been blogging on digitalerwandel.de since 2011. **Follow Julius Tröger on Twitter:** [@juliustroeger](#)

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

ACTIVISM AND ANONYMITY

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

Social movements around the world are experiencing a revival. The »Web 2.0« offers all the globally accessible, functional and inexpensive tools which social activism requires – PR work, networking, collective knowledge management, etc. Although spontaneous and seemingly chaotic, direct web-driven protests are highly effective. However, the use of social media networks like Twitter and Facebook – despite their effectiveness for mass movements – can be risky. Anonymity is absolutely vital for protecting the identities of opposition members and activists. To ensure anonymity, new technical solutions are necessary, as well as education and new forms of privacy. Against the backdrop of current social movements in Greece, Asteris Masouras will initiate a discussion on the function of anonymity as a human right and as strategy in the context of resistance movements.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Asteris Masouras writes for Global Voices Online, an international network devoted to following and documenting international blogs. Masouras, a resident of Thessaloniki, received his degree in mathematics and, since 2004, has written a blog on issues such as human rights, freedom of the press, social movements, digital rights and social media activism. He is the co-founder of digitalrights.gr and co-host of a monthly radio show on radiobubble.gr featuring news about open source- and digital rights.

Follow Asteris Masouras on Twitter: [@asteris](#)

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

THE OBSCURITY OF LANGUAGE

Workshop with Federico Ferrari . philosopher
Moderated by Sabrina Apitz . berlinergazette.de

The workshop »The Obscurity of Language – Obscurité des idiomes« examines the dark side of language – the untranslatable, the stuttering. It probes the hidden potential of this dark side with respect to the requirements of language in the digital system. Voice recognition, voice reproduction, translation technologies and automatic writing programmes are on the rise and enable machines to encode language and reproduce it as desired. But are there still areas of language which are »untranslatable« or »incommunicable«? Once computers are capable of controlling language, we ourselves become transparent and controllable to a

certain extent. Might there be a subversive power concealed within the dark side of language which could counter programmed mind control?

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Federico Ferrari is an Italian philosopher and art critic who teaches at the Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera in Milan. Initially focusing on bioethics, he developed the concept of »dysthanasia« in response to the problem of euthanasia, an approach based on the idea of a »good death«. He has closely collaborated with Jean-Luc Nancy, with whom he co-wrote two books, »La pelle delle immagini« in 2003 [will be published in English under the title »Being Nude: The Skin of Images« in spring 2014] and »Iconografia dell'autore« [Iconography of the Writer] in 2006.

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

UNLIMITED SELF-QUANTIFICATION?

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

The digital technology of self-quantification allows us to measure our blood pressure, weight, calorie consumption, number of steps and sleeping phases and then upload this physical data onto the web in real-time. But despite the increasing mass of data, our own bodies remain foreign to us. This is not due to the fact that we use digital media, but rather the way we use it and the faith we invest in it. This level of awareness serves as the starting point for the workshop. The practical physical activities in the workshop will be based on the Body-Mind Centering technique (BMC). A sensual exploration of the conference themes plays a central role: the investigation of the development and patterns of movement and a study of various physiological systems, e. g., the bone structure and the muscular and nervous systems.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Heike Hennig is the stage director, choreographer and managing director of the opera and dance company Heike Hennig & Co. Drawing on anatomy, art and choreography, she regularly offers interdisciplinary workshops on body- and movement-oriented themes.

Sunday | 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

Following the suicide of the Internet activist Aaron Swartz in January 2013, a wave of sadness and empathy was expressed around the world via Twitter. Was this perhaps the first sign of a different, more sensitive and sympathetic network? With more and more aspects of life migrating to the Internet every day, the web has increasingly become a psychological space. For the past few years, hacktivists and netizens have been developing new forms of cooperation which aim to explore their own ideas concerning »geek mental health«. There have certainly been enough traumatic events in the past three years. But in this workshop, we are more interested in the positive effects of the networked public sphere and segments of public life. What can we learn from the network setting? What does the latest research show? And how can we prevent some of the brightest minds from being crushed in the wheels of the networked society in the future?

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Anwen Roberts is a writer and translator specialised in the areas of science, technology and networking. She regularly writes for online and print media as a freelance journalist. She lives in Berlin. Her work mainly focuses on the effects technology has on society, culture and education.

Follow Anwen Roberts on Twitter: [@eridisk](https://twitter.com/eridisk)

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ABOUT THE MODERATORS

Tilman Baumgärtel is a media studies scholar and journalist. Since the early 1990s, he has written articles for taz, Die Zeit, NZZ, Berliner Zeitung, telepolis and other newspapers on such themes as media culture, net art, computer games and film. His latest book is »Southeast Asian Independent Cinema« (2012).

Cristina Nord earned her degree in Literary Studies and is now the director of the film department at the newspaper taz. She produces the film review »Filmtipps für das Fernsehen« for the TV broadcaster WDR and teaches Film Criticism at Freie Universität in Berlin.

Philip Banse works in Berlin as a media journalist mainly for Deutschlandfunk, Deutschlandradio Kultur and dctp.tv. Together with his colleagues, he also produces the podcasts Küchenradio.org, Medienradio.org, Bundesradio.org and Studienwahl.tv.

René Aguigah is a journalist and heads the programme department »Kultur und Gesellschaft« [Culture and Society] at Deutschlandradio Kultur. In past years, he has worked as an editor for WDR 3 and the book magazine Literaturen, and has written pieces for various cultural magazines and feature pages (e.g. taz, FAZ, Frankfurter Rundschau and Kursbuch).

Sabrina Apitz is a theatre studies scholar and writes for the Berliner Gazette. She is a founding member of the European Association for Cultural Affairs (EGfKA), in which she oversees the discussion format »Europäische Depeschen« [European Telegrams]. Since 2009, she has been involved in the conferences and seminars organised by the Berliner Gazette e.V.

Magdalena Taube has been an editor with the Berliner Gazette since 2002, and in 2009, was appointed its editor-in-chief. After heading the cultural and media department at du-machst.de, the website of an action programme funded by the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs to promote youth involvement, she assumed editorial responsibility for the cultural database of the Kulturportal Deutschland. In 2010, she began a dissertation project on online journalism.

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› open daily 12–6 pm

As space is limited, we kindly ask you to register in
advance at the info desk if you wish to participate
in the workshops.

CONFERENCE LANGUAGES

The conference will be held in German, English
and French. The programme in the Sternfoyer will
be offered in simultaneous German and English
translation.

LIVESTREAM

A continuous live stream of the lectures and
discussions in the Sternfoyer will be
presented in Grüner Salon and online at
www.einbruch-der-dunkelheit.de.

CATERING

Beverages will be on sale in Roter and Grüner
Salon throughout the entire conference.
Meals provided by Organiced Kitchen will be
served in Grüner Salon.

INFORMATION

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As Darkness Falls.

Theory & Practice of Self-Empowerment in the Age of Digital Control

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