

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Infrastructures of Cultural Memory

Materiality-Oriented Approaches in Exhibition Studies

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

16:15–17:45

IPP-Raum

Philosophicum | Jakob-Welder-Weg 18

Studying museum and art exhibitions as media of cultural memory is usually content-oriented. Scholars focus on narratives and aesthetics of the objects on display. An important factor of the analysis is often the political context. Whilst not underestimating these aspects, the workshop focuses on the materiality of exhibitions. They are, on the one hand, infrastructures of cultural memory, as they offer material anchors for mnemonic practices. On the other hand, exhibitions are built upon existing infrastructures, related to spatial relations or administrative regulations. Using examples from Polish and German museums and galleries with strong references to mutual histories of the Second World War and the Holocaust, we will discuss the advantages of the infrastructural approach for memory and exhibition studies.

The event is a cooperation between scholars from Media and Culture Studies and the CRC 1482 »Studies in Human Differentiation« at Johannes Gutenberg University-Mainz and Polish scholars from the University of Lodz and German Historical Institute Warsaw. Invited guests are **Tomasz Załuski** (Lodz), art historian and philosopher, and **Magdalena Saryusz-Wolska** (Warsaw), cultural scholar and sociologist. Together, they work on the project »Infrastructures of memory. Actants of globalization and their impact of Polish and German memory cultures«, funded by the Polish-German Research Foundation.



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