Unsettling Archives
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International Conference

7–9 July 2022

Senate Hall (Senatssaal), Main Building, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin,
– Unter den Linden 6, 10117 Berlin
The 2022 conference Unsettling Archives focuses on the relationship between narrative and material accounts of the body and the frictions that unsettle and confirm gendered and racialized certainties about archival knowledge production. This includes work with material objects, classificatory orders, and the narrative, socio-material, spatial, and temporal constellations that configure archives and questions concerning memory. How do we deal with the upsetting and violent effects of archive formation and what are possibilities of rendering unstable, unsettling hegemonic archival practices? How can we re-imagine archival methodologies? Can we conceptualize the body as archive or architectures and spaces as unsettling actors of history and memory? What is the role of the personal in counter-archiving? Re-imaging here means reading both with and against the grain, focusing on the postcolonial entanglements and the sexual politics that any form of archiving entails.

FR/DAY, 8 JULY 2022

9:30 - 10:00 • Welcome and Introduction
Chair: Silvy Chakkalalak (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) - Wallace Best (Princeton University)

Panel 1: Absence and Abundance in the Archive
Chair: Adela Táleb (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Agata Dzubi (Jagellonian University) and Todd Sekuler (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) - The Politics of Absence: Withholding and Withdrawing Stories from the European HIV/AIDS Archive (EHAA) - Pawel Leszkowicz (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan) - The Biggest Curatorial Challenge: Queering National Museums and Turning Them into Transregional Queer Archives

9:30 - 10:00 • Coffee break

10:00 - 10:30 • Coffee break

10:30 - 11:30 Panel 2: Archived Bodies and Bureaucratic Governance: Queering/Derailing the Colonial Archive
Chair: Wendy Warren (Princeton University)
Madison Wolfert (Princeton University) - Gendering "Improvement": Race and Labor in the Early American Archive - Jasper Verlinden (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) - Suspicious Narratives: The Body as Archive in Edith Eaton’s Writing - Kiel Ramos Suarez (Linnaeus University/Lund University) - Colonial Archives and Philippine LGBTQ History-Writing -

11:30 - 12:00 Lunch break

12:00 - 13:00 Panel 3: Architecture as Archive: Temporal Politics of Space
Chair: Silvy Chakkalalak (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Dennis Ohm (McGill University, Montreal) - Architecture and Queer Temporality on New York’s Waterfront - Elena Holst (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) - More-than-ruins, less-than-buildings: On the more-than-human, material, and imaginative composition of architectural archives - Nad Gebrayel (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) - When Shadowplays Shadow Place: Embodied Negotiations of Memories in Sonnenallee

12:00 - 13:00 • Coffee break

13:00 - 14:00 Keynote Tavia Nyong'o (Yale University) - At the Utopian Margins of the Flesh: Nao Bustamante with Geo Mythe

14:00 - 14:30 Introduction: Eva Rosenberg (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

14:30 • Reception

THURSDAY, 7 JULY 2022

9:30 - 10:00 • Coffee break

10:00 - 10:45 Panel 4: Crippling Archival Experience, Crippling Experiential Archives
Chair: Beate Binder (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Jiya Pandya (Princeton University) - Prosthetics, Petitions, and Paisa: Reading Transnational Disability Management through the UN IDPD - Catherine Clune-Taylor (Princeton University) - Who Needs the Birth Control Pill? Intersex Women and Hormone Replacement Therapy - Milena Bister (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) - Welfare Categories: Classification Processes and Their Effects on Shaping Experiences and Archives of Social Inequality

10:45 - 11:00 • Coffee break

11:00 - 12:00 Panel 5: Narrated Bodies and Autofictional Knowledge Production
Chair: Ela Haschemi Yekani (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Alexis Ferguson (Princeton University) - Narratives of Sex: Reading Gender in 19th Century Physiology - Anja Sumhyun Michaelis (Braunschweig University of Art) - Her Shape and His Hand: Postcolonial Bodies in the Archive of Intercountry Adoption

12:00 - 12:15 Lunch break

Chair: Ulrike Veder (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Anne Potjans (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) - Anger - Abjection - Empowerment: Architectural Practices and Black Female Subjectivity in the Poetry of Wanda Coleman - Susanne Klenzsch (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) - Hans Henny Jahn’s Medea Between Racist Misogyny and Empowerment - Corporal Disgust as Aesthetic Tilt Figure

13:15 - 13:30 • Coffee break

13:30 - 14:45 Roundtable and Conference Reflection
Wallace Best and Tera Hunter (Princeton University), Silvy Chakkalakalak and Ela Haschemi Yekani (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

14:45 - 15:00 Strategic Partnership Meeting (non-public)

SARTDAY, 9 JULY 2022

9:30 - 10:00 Private guided tour at the SMU (Schwules Museum Berlin/Queer Museum) by Thao Ho - Exhibition “Encantadas” - Lützowstraße 73, 10785 Berlin

10:00 - 10:45 Archiving Queer BIPOC Histories (Public SMU Program)
Roundtable with Peter Rehberg (SMU), Thao Ho (SMU), Tarek Shukrallah (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

10:45 - 11:00 • Farewell

11:00 • Coffee break

11:00 - 11:30 Archiving Queer BIPOC Histories (Public SMU Program)
Roundtable with Peter Rehberg (SMU), Thao Ho (SMU), Tarek Shukrallah (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

11:30 - 12:00 Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies at Princeton University (GSS)
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
In cooperation with
Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies at Princeton University (GSS)
Part of the joint research project
Re-Imagining the Archive: Sexual Politics and Postcolonial Entanglements
Funded by a Princeton-HU Strategic Partnership Grant

Organized by
Silvy Chakkalalak, Department of European Ethnology
Ela Haschemi Yekani, Department of English and American Studies
Gabriele Jähnert, Center for Transdisciplinary Gender Studies (ZtG)

Contact
Amy Visram/Claudia Küster
+49 (0)30 2093-4620/ztgsekre@hu-berlin.de

Venue
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin 18117 Berlin, Unter den Linden 6
Main Building; Senatssaal

Directions
S1, S2, S5, S7
U6 (Friedrichstrasse); U5 (Museuminsel)
Bus 187, 208, 297 (Staatsoper)
Tram M1, 12 (Universitätsstraße or An Kupfergrabene)

Registration
https://hu.berlin/unsettling_archives
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**THURSDAY, 7 JULY 2022**

**Panel 1: Absence and Abundance in the Archive**
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Agata Dziuban (Jagiellonian University) and Todd Sekuler (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) The Politics of Absence: Withholding and Withdrawing Stories from the European HIV/AIDS Archive (EHAA)
Paweł Leszkowicz (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań) The Biggest Curatorial Challenge: Queering National Museums and Turning Them into Transregional Queer Archives

**Panel 2: Archived Bodies and Bureaucratic Governance:**
Chair: Wendy Warren (Princeton University)
Madison Wolfert (Princeton University)

**Panel 3: Architecture as Archive:**
Chair: Silvy Chakkalakal (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

**Panel 4: Cripping Archival Experience:**
Chair: Beate Binder (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

**Panel 5:**
Chair: Ela Haschemi Yekani (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

**Panel 6:**
Chair: Ulrike Vetter (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

**Conference Reflection**
Wallace Best and Tera Hunter (Princeton University), Silvy Chakkalakal and Ela Haschemi Yekani (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

**Strategic Partnership Meeting**
(non-public)