

International Conference (CRC 1391 'Different Aesthetics')

Negotiating the Aesthetic. Norms and Practices in the Pre-modern Period

Tübingen, 11-13 November 2021

The Tübingen-based Collaborative Research Centre (CRC) 1391 'Different Aesthetics' examines aesthetic phenomena from the pre-modern period and places them within the dynamic field of tension between autological and heterological dimension. By autological dimension, we mean the inner logic of artistic processes and techniques inherent in the artefacts, their often implicit knowledge of forms or artistic traditions. Conversely, the heterological dimension focusses on the artefacts' functional embeddedness within the pragmatic and historical logic of everyday life and the logic of discourses or within social practices. By analysing the processes of negotiation between the two dimensions, we aim to find coordinates of a pre-modern aesthetic self-conception. As coordinates which were especially influential over a longer period of time, the cross-sectional topics of the Collaborative Research Centre have identified different key aspects – usually arranged in conceptual pairs – from which they hope to gain particular insight. The conference is meant to continue and deepen this interdisciplinary dialogue of the cross-sectional topic 'Norm and Diversity' within a deliberately broad field of disciplines ranging from e.g. literary studies, linguistics, art, history, sociology, musicology, theology and philosophy to the field of *Digital Humanities*.

As guiding approach for the conference discussions, we have decided that norms should be analysed not only regarding the inner logic of artistic processes and techniques, but that their dynamic interplay with the pragmatic and historical logic of everyday life, with the social function of acts and artefacts should also be taken into account. Therefore, the central point of discussion is not so much norm and deviation only in relation to artefacts, a phenomenon which has been thoroughly researched. Rather, we aim to shed light on the dynamic situation of aesthetic negotiations and negotiations on the aesthetic taking place at the same time. Although formulations of norms aim at universal applicability, firstly there is a plurality of norms which confront each other, and secondly, the norms' claim to validity is reflected upon by a manifold practice and is thus repeatedly put up for discussion. In this way, the conference would like to answer to the narrative that pre-modern artefacts are grounded in normative conceptions, which is still highly influential in research but does not take sufficient notice of the counterpart of diversity.

Please send your proposals for talks or alternative forms of presentations (panel discussions, poster sessions, etc.) to sarah.dessi@uni-tuebingen.de and sandra.linden@uni-tuebingen.de (please send everything to both addresses) by 31 March 2021, along with an informative abstract (max. 300 words, in German or English) and a short CV in a PDF file.

The contributions will be published in a conference volume. If permitted by the coronavirus pandemic, the conference will be held as a face-to-face event with appropriate hygienic precautions, or else it will be a hybrid event. As conference team, we will try our best to respond to the wishes and needs of the conference's participants.