

DIGITAL AESTHETICS

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Artistic
Practices as Applied Technologies

Conference Program

November 26–28, 2026 – Warburg-Haus, Hamburg

Registration via email:

Dr. Jasmin Kermanchi (jasmin.kermanchi@uni-hamburg.de)

Dr. Henrik Wehmeier (henrik.wehmeier@gmx.de)

This conference is financially supported by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation.

Thursday, November 26

2.00 pm – **Welcome and Introduction**

2.30 pm Dr. Jasmin Kermanchi (University of Hamburg), Prof. Dr. Elisa Linseisen (HFBK), and Dr. Henrik Wehmeier

2.30 pm – **Panel I: Glitching, Layering, Fragmentation, and Hacking of Digital Interfaces**
4.00 pm

Chair: tba

- Prof. Dr. Petra Missomelius (University of Innsbruck): Image Glitches, Interferences and Visual Hacks
 - Prof. Dr. Oliver Ruf (Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg): Aesthetics of Layers: Visibility and Opacity through Digital-Artistic Materiality
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4.00 pm –

4.30 pm

COFFEE BREAK

4.30 pm – **Panel II: Sensory Perception of (Post-)Digital Materialities**
6.00 pm

Chair: Prof. Dr. Claudia Benthien (University of Hamburg)

- Prof. Birgitte Stougaard Pedersen, PhD (Aarhus University): Rhythm and Tactility in Current Digital Audio Reading Practices
 - Dr. Anna Polze (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz): Re-Arranging the Archive. Post-digital Aesthetics in Artistic Research by Sarah Cwynar and Alessandra Ferrini
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Friday, November 27

9.45 am – 12.00 pm **Panel III: Biological Algorithms, Artistic Speculation: Cybernetic, Ecological, and Media Archaeological Perspectives on Digital Aesthetics**

Chair: Antje Schmidt, M.A. (University of Hamburg)

- Prof. Dr. Yuji Nawata (Chuo University, Tokyo): Biological Computing, Animism and Polytheism: Reflections from Contemporary Japanese Culture
- Prof. Dr. Alisa Kronberger (University of Konstanz): Animating Forces in the AI Herbaria of Our Time. Between Life-Mobilization and Friction
- Prof. Jesper Olsson, PhD (Uppsala University): Algorithmic Poetry, Recursive Reading: Media Archaeological Perspectives on Digital Aesthetics

12.00 pm – 1.30 pm **LUNCH BREAK**

1.30 pm – 3.00 pm **Panel IV: Interactive Aesthetics of Artificial Entities**

Chair: Dr. Jasmin Kermanchi (University of Hamburg)

- Prof. Lotte Philipsen, PhD (Aarhus University): The Aesthetics of AI-generated (Inter)Active Personas
- Prof. Dr. Judith Aston (University of the West of England, Bristol): The Intelligent Use of Algorithms: Keeping Interactive Storytelling Human

3.00 pm – 3.30 pm **COFFEE BREAK**

3.30 pm – **Panel V: Aesthetic Practices of Internet Culture**
5.45 pm

Chair: tba

- **Prof. Dr. Steffen Krüger** (University of Oslo): Manic/Depressive – Psychoanalytic Theory of Internet-Memes
- **Prof. Robert Willim** (Lund University): Net Order and its Discontents: About Brandverses and their Messy Fringes
- **Prof. Dr. Ralf Adelman & Bastian August, M.A.** (Paderborn University): "The global truth machine is here, powered by the people." Media Logics of Prediction Markets

5.45 pm **Book Launch & Project Launch**

- **Dr. Henrik Wehmeier:** *Formatierungen des Flow. Die mediale Zirkulation zeitgenössischer Lyrik.* [Formatting the Flow: How Contemporary Poetry Circulates in Media] De Gruyter 2026. [Monograph]
- **Dr. Jasmin Kermanchi:** AI-Generated Documentaries. [Research Project funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), University of Hamburg, 2026-2029]

Saturday, November 28

9.30 am – 11.00 am **Panel VI: Platforms and Game Engines as Infrastructures of Digital Aesthetics**

Chair: tba

- **Prof. Solveig Daugaard**, PhD (Aarhus University): The Digital Dark Ages of Literature? On the Transformations of Literature's Cultural Heritage in a Post-Digital Media Ecology
- **Dr. Felix Hasebrink** (Ruhr University Bochum): Through the Cracks of the World. Machinima and the Backsides of Media

11.00 am – 11.45 am **COFFEE BREAK AND SNACK**

11.45 am – 1.15 pm **Panel VII: What Follows Cyberspace? Future Aesthetics of Digital Technology**

Chair: tba

- **Dr. Angela Jouini** (Freie Universität Berlin): Simulation, Speculation, Generation. Digital Imaging Processes and Cinematic Visions of the Future
- **Prof. Hans Kristian S. Rustad**, PhD (University of Oslo): The Unknown. What Poetry Can Teach Us About (the Boundaries of a Boundless) AI

1.15 pm – 2.00 pm **CONCLUDING DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE ON FUTURE FORMS OF INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION**
