

Archival Echoes

A transdisciplinary workshop in collaboration with the *90x collective*

Echo is a trope, a figure of sound and movement. Thinking echo in the context of visual representation shifts the focus to constellations of spatial reverberation, travelling images and re-emergent memories. How do images materialize and (de)compose memory? How does the combination of image, text, and sound induce an intermedial echo that lets emerge affectively intense fragments of history, lived experience and (missed) encounter?

The transdisciplinary workshop *Archival Echoes* discusses the art projects developed in the context of the Cluster project *Visual Echoes*. The project which is located at the Transfer Area of the Cluster is pursuing a close cooperation with artistic positions. It aims to explore echo as a figure of intermedial communication and fragmentation, with a special focus on the interrelatedness of visualization and narrativization and the effects of resonance in processes of image-based narration and historicization.

Archival Echoes is the second workshop held in cooperation with the Georgian *90x collective* – a collective of four Georgian artists primarily working with photography. It brings together the artists from the collective and corresponding research positions from Eastern European Studies and Art History focusing the archive in (post-)Soviet contexts. The workshop explores the archive as cultural practice between memorization and erasure and its relation to the photographic image.

Each of the four involved artists approaches the topic of *Archival Echo* in a different way in their individual projects. The archive appears as a practice, a material entity, and a re-appropriated tool of artistic intervention. Interconnected in their exploration of the entanglement of personal and societal histories and investigating the formal and narrative potentials of the photographic image the projects engage in questions of self-archivization, the interconnection between intimacy and governmental control, and the reverberation of the collective experiences of disruption in the archiving image.

Employing different aspects of archival practices Giorgi Rodionov, Thoma Sukhashvili, Nino-Ana Samkharadze and Mano Svanidze provide a multifocal image of the echoing histories that haunt their photography, stories and objects.

The workshop will take place on February 24/25 at the Freie Universität Berlin and will include project presentations, discussions, an artist talk with the *90x collective* and impulse talks by Zaal Andronikashvili, Lindsey Drury, Emese Kürti and Lukas Schmutzer on the archive as discontinuous institution in (post-)Soviet contexts and on artistic strategies to disrupt, re-write the archive and allow it to (dis)appear. On February 25 the group of participants will visit the exhibition “Post Post: Queer Caucasus” at the Berlin-based *Institute for Endotic Research* (<http://theinstituteforendoticresearch.org>). In addition to a guided tour by the curator, the excursion will provide space to transfer the topics discussed during the workshop to a broader context and to collectively reflect on *Documenting Queerness* in the setting of the Queer interventions presented in the exhibition.

The workshop is part of the project Visual Echoes – a format by the Cluster of Excellence “Temporal Communities: Doing Literature in a Global Perspective” (Freie Universität Berlin) in cooperation with the international literature festival berlin organized by Lindsey Drury (Postdoctoral Researcher, EXC 2020) and Sara Ehrentraut (Academic Coordinator Transfer Area, EXC 2020)

Program

February 24, 2022 (*Online // Conference Room, Cluster "Temporal Communities" Otto-von-Simson-Str. 15, 14195 Berlin*)

10 am Introduction – Sara Ehrentraut

10.15 am Impulse Talk – Lindsey Drury

11 am - 12.30 am **Presentation 90x collective**

12.30 am - 2 pm Lunch Break

2 pm Impulse Talk – Lukas Schmutzer (Universität Wien)

2.45 pm Impulse Talk – Zaal Andronikashvili (ZfL Berlin)

3.45 pm **Artist Talk *Archival Intimacies***
moderated by Lindsey Drury & Sara Ehrentraut

4.30 pm Impulse Talk – Emese Kürti (Artpool Art Research Center, Budapest)

5 pm Final Remarks

February 25, 2022 (*The Institute for Endotic Research, Donaustr. 84, 12043 Berlin*)

2 pm – 6 pm Visit to the exhibiton "**Post Post Caucasus**" at the Berlin-based **Institute for Endotic Research (TIER)**

Guided Tour by curator Giorgi Rodionov

Discussion on *Documenting Queerness*
with the curator of the exhibiton Giorgi Rodionov & Benjamin Busch
from *The Institute for Endotic Research*