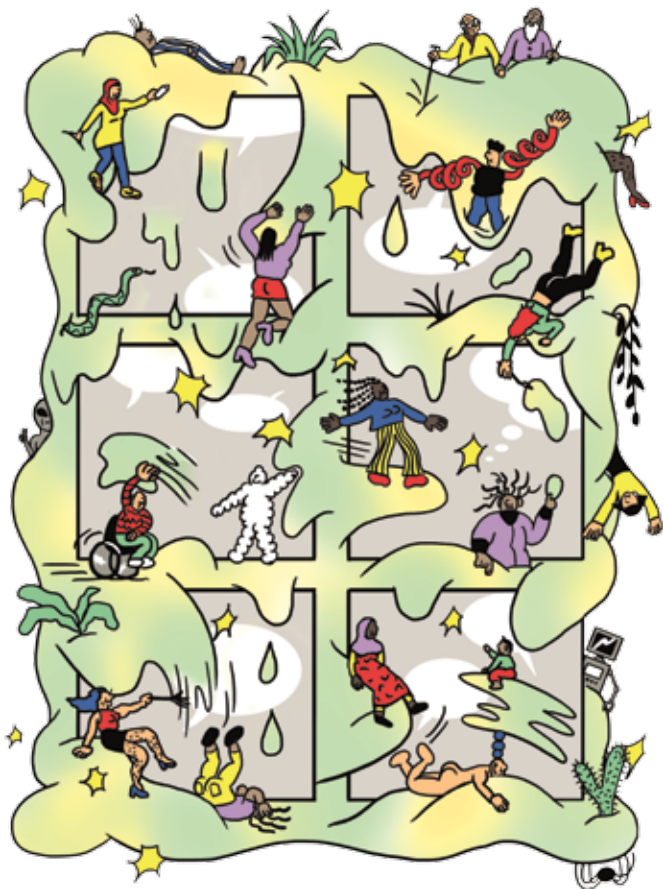


SPACES BETWEEN

Gender, Diversity and Identity in Comics



13th Annual Conference of the German Society for Comics Studies (ComFor)

17.–19.09.2018
University of Cologne



ABOUT

For decades, comics have been perceived as a mass phenomenon situated in popular culture, which manifests, establishes and perpetuates stereotypical (gender) representations. Hence, the image of a particularly helpless, passive, but all the more attractive female victim is at home in the repertoire of the medium no less than the representation of a radiant, muscular, white, heterosexual hero, whose first duty consists of protecting the world and its inhabitants from catastrophe. In this sense, comics might seem alike to other forms of mass media in the age of mechanical reproduction and their tendency towards generalisations and clichés. From a historical perspective, reactions to the worldwide anti-comics campaigns of the 1950s, including self-censorship among numerous comic book publishers, also exemplarily point to heteronormative and xenophobic tendencies within mass media comics culture, which was in turn long reflected in the demographics of its readership. However, as a popular and oftentimes marginalised medium,

CONFERENCE VENUE

University of Cologne
COPT-Building (Building 315)
Room H230
Luxemburger Str. 90 | 50939 Cologne

CONCEPTION

Christine Gundermann
(University of Cologne | Department of History)

Nina Heindl
(University of Cologne | a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne)

Véronique Sina
(University of Cologne | Department of Media Culture and Theatre)

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

Nina Heindl
(University of Cologne | a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne)

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DESIGN & LAYOUTS

Julia Eckel | www.juliaeckel.de

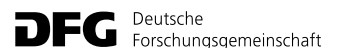
ILLUSTRATION

Aisha Franz | www.frauf Franz.com

www.comicgesellschaft.de

SPONSORS

The conference is being sponsored by: DFG, German Research Foundation | Finanzfonds der Universität zu Köln zur Umsetzung des gesetzlichen Gleichstellungsauftrags | the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) | MedienStiftung Kultur | a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School for the Humanities Cologne | Department of Media Culture and Theatre, University of Cologne.



REGISTRATION

Attendants are kindly asked to register until **August 31st 2018** at

comfortagung2018@gmail.com.

The conference fee will be

30 € for professors and postdocs

25 € for PhD-students and ComFor-members

15 € for students

Please transfer the conference fee to our account (see below) no later than **September 3rd 2018.**

Nina Eckhoff-Heindl

IBAN: DE76 5001 0517 5425 2931 20

BIC: INGDEFFXXX

Reference:

Conference fee, name of conference participant

EXHIBITION

From July 11th to September 20th 2018 the

exhibition **SUPERQUEEROES:**

UNSERE LGBTI-COMIC-HELD*INNEN

will be shown at the University of Cologne.

(Philosophikum, Building 103 | Universitätsstraße 41, 50923 Cologne). The exhibition is a cooperation with the Gay Museum* Berlin.

There will be a speech by Ralf König at the opening of the exhibition on July 11th 2018 | 12-13h.

Exhibition

Organization:

Christine

Gundermann

(University of

Cologne |

Department of

History)



PROGRAMME



MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

- 10:30 **ANNUAL MEETING**
of the German Society for Comics Studies
(ComFor)
- 12:00 *Lunch Break*
- 13:00 **WELCOME & INTRODUCTION**
Conference Organizers | ComFor-Chair |
Vice-Rectorate for Gender Equality and
Diversity of the University of Cologne
- 13:30 **ARTISTIC LECTURE**
PHILIP CRAWFORD (Berlin, GER)
My Noose Around That Pretty's Neck
Chair: Barbara Margarethe Eggert
- 14:15 **PANEL 1: REPRESENTATIONS
OF DIS/ABILITY**
Chair: Anne Waldschmidt
OLGA TARAPATA (Cologne, GER)
Between Crooked Lines: Disability in
E.T. Russian's Feminist Comic Books
NATALIE VEITH (Frankfurt a. M., GER)
Othering Voices and the Voice of
the Other: The Depiction of Joseph
Merrick in *From Hell*
JONAS NELDNER (Cologne, GER)
Noir Surrealism: The Hybrid Bodies
of Charles Burns
- 15:45 *Coffee Break*
-

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 18, 2018



- 9:30 **PANEL 3: MAKING COMICS AND
EXHIBITING THEIR PHYSICALITY**
Chair: Christine Gundermann
ERIN LA COUR (Amsterdam | Utrecht, NL)
No Longer In-Between: Towards a Social
Abstraction in Comics Exhibitions
ANN MILLER (Leicester, UK)
The Nude and the Naked: From Fine
Art to Comics
KATHARINA BRANDL (Basel, CHE)
ANNE ELIZABETH MOORE (Detroit, USA)
Do What You Love, or: About Precarious
Living and Working Conditions in the
Comics Industry
- 11:00 *Coffee Break*
- 11:30 **PANEL 4: (TRANS-)CULTURAL
IDENTITIES**
Chair: Laura Schlichting
ANNE MAGNUSSEN (Odense, DK)
Mexican Comics and the Revolution
ANNA NORDENSTAM (Gothenburg, SWE)
MARGARETA WALLIN WICTORIN (Karlstad, SWE)
Talking Back Strategies in Swedish Feminist
Comics
NINA MICKWITZ (London, UK)
Precarity and the Gendered Migrant Body in
Nina Bunjevac's *Heartless*
-

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

- 9:00 **PANEL 7: STRUCTURES OF
POWER AND DIFFERENCE IN
SUPERHERO COMICS**
Chair: Lukas R.A. Wilde
MARKUS ENGELNS (Duisburg-Essen, GER)
The ›Man of Tomorrow‹ as Copy
Template – Male Hegemony and its
Reproduction in Superhero Comics
THOMAS P. SCHOLZ (St. Louis, USA)
Deconstructing the Superhero
Genre: BDSM, Hypersexuality and
Marshal Law
-
- JULIANE BLANK** (Saarbrücken, GER)
Rethinking the World of a Female
Superhero. Marvel's *Jessica Jones*
as an Example of a Gender-Sensitive
Marvel Adaptation
- 10:30 *Coffee Break*
- 11:00 **PANEL 8: QUEERING COMICS**
Chair: Daniel Stein
FREDERIK BYRN KØHLERT (Norwich, UK)
Queer as Style: Ariel Schrag's High
School Comic Chronicles
ROMAIN BECKER (Lyon, F)
The Binary Comics of a Non-Binary
Artist: How Vaughn Bodé's Gender
Structures his Work

- 16:15 **PANEL 2: GRAPHIC MEDICINE:
INTERSECTIONS OF COMICS,
HEALTH AND CORPOREALITY**
Chair: Christina Maria Koch
SUSAN MERRILL SQUIER (Pennsylvania, USA)
The Spaces Between: Negotiating Gender
and Race in Transdisciplinary Comics
Collaborations
IRMELA MAREI KRÜGER-FÜRHOFF (Berlin, GER)
Telling and Showing Dis/Continuities:
Comics on Dementia
ALEXANDRA ALBERDA (Poole, UK)
The Gaze, the Other and the Exhibit:
Curating Graphic Medicine
- 17:45 *Coffee Break*
- 18:30 **KEYNOTE**
TAHNEER OKSMAN (New York City, USA)
An Art of Loss
Chair: Véronique Sina

- 13:00 *Lunch Break*
- 14:45 **PANEL 5: (DE-)CONSTRUCTING
RACE AND ETHNICITY**
Chair: Marie Schröder
PRISCILLA LAYNE (Chapel Hill, USA)
Weyhe's Postcolonial Approach to the
Documentary Graphic Novel
-
- JONATHAN W. GRAY** (New York City, USA)
Descendants of Kings and Queens:
Black Panther and Entangled African
Cosmopolitanism
JAQUELINE BERNDT (Stockholm, SWE)
Destabilizing Gender but not Race?
Effeminate Boys, Caucasian Appearances,
and Uncertain ›Gutters‹ in (Shōjo) Manga
- 16:15 *Coffee Break*
- 16:45 **PANEL 6: SUPERHEROES RE-
VISITED: INTERSECTIONS OF
GENDER AND GENRE**
Chair: Stephan Packard
JEFFREY BROWN (Ohio, USA)
Batman: Anchor for the Space Between
RANTHILD SALZER (Vienna, AT)
Objectifying the Male: Early Superhero
Comics as Fantasies of Masculinity
OLIVIA HICKS (Dundee, UK)
›No Place for Trespassers‹: The
Supercats and the British Superheroine
- 18:15 *Coffee Break*
- 19:00 **KEYNOTE**
CAROLYN COCCA (New York City, USA)
Reproducing Inequality and Representing
Diversity: The Politics of Gender in
Superhero Comics
Chair: Nina Heindl
-

- JOSÉ ALANIZ** (Seattle, USA)
TranSiberia and Queer Comics
in Russia
- 12:30 *Lunch Break*
- 14:00 **PANEL 9: FLUIDE KÖRPER** (GERMAN)
Chair: Ole Frahm
MARINA RAUCHENBACHER (Vienna, AT)
KATHARINA SERLES (Dresden, GER)
Gerahmt und zerstückelt. Zeichen-
haftigkeit und Wahrnehmung von
Körpern in Comics
ANNA BECKMANN (Berlin, GER)
Strategien der Ambivalenzen –
Uneindeutige Geschlechter-
identitäten im Comic
-
- DANIELA KAUFMANN** (Graz, AT)
Color Change & Gender Fluidity. Zur
Korrelation von Farbe und Geschlecht
bei George Herrimans *Krazy Kat*
- 15:30 *Coffee Break*
- 16:00 **PANEL 10: ALTERNATIVE
COMICS UND FEMINISMUS** (GERMAN)
Chair: Dietrich Grünewald
SYLVIA KESPER-BIERMANN (Hamburg, GER)
»...denkt lieber mal nach, wie das so
zu Hause bei euch läuft«. Geschlech-
terverhältnisse in Alternativ-Comics
der 1970er Jahre
KALINA KUPCZYNSKA (Łódź, PL)
BLUT, oder: Gender und Nationalität
im polnischen Comic
SOPHIE BÜRGI (Basel, CHE)
»Common scents«: Geruchsregime
und affektive Zwischenräume in
Lyn da Barrys Comic *One! Hundred!
Demons!*
- 17:30 **CONCLUDING DISCUSSION**
Chair: Nina Heindl | Véronique Sina
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