

**Aesthetics and Politics**  
**Graduate Conference, Department of German and Dutch**  
**University of Cambridge**

13 May 2017

Prioress's Room, Jesus College

**9.15 – 9.30** Welcoming Remarks Professor Sarah Colvin

**9.30 – 11.00** **Cultivation and Culture**  
chaired by Dr Marie Kolkenbrock

*Margarete Tiessen* Literary Coping in the Shadow of Political Turmoil – Publishers  
and the Question of National Reorientation

*Syamala Roberts* Gallery Politics

*Justine Kolata* The Beautiful Soul in the Enlightenment Salon

**11.00 – 11.15** Coffee

**11.15 – 12.15** **Political Selfhood and Transcultural Subjectivity**  
chaired by Dr Katharina Karcher

*Ali Jones* Purity in Widerstand: Creation of the Militant Self as a Work of Art

*Kathrin Wunderlich* The Politics of Aestheticizing Catastrophe: 9/11 in German-  
language Fiction

**12.15 – 13.30** **Lunch**

13.30 - 14.30

**Keynote Address**

*Professor Erica Carter (King's College London)*

**The Politics of the Aesthetic**

14.30 - 14.45

Coffee

14.45 - 15.45

**Speculative Futurity and Logic of Ruination**

chaired by Dr Erica Wickerson

*Rafael Dernbach*

Anticipatory Realism: On Algorithmic Determination and  
Constructions of the Future

*Anat Messing Marcus*

The Cinema of Natural History: on Nikolaus Geyrhalter's  
'Homo Sapiens'

15.45 - 17.15

**Literature, Language and Political Resistance**

chaired by Dr Yvonne Zivkovic

*Nick Courtman*

'Zum Haupthelden unserer Bücher müssen wir die Arbeit  
machen': Working through Working in Volker Braun's  
Machwerk

*Isabelle Zirden*

Catastrophe in/as Drama: Kathrin Röggla's Aesthetic Principle  
of Catastrophe

*Abhimanyu Sharma*

Language Policies in Luxembourg

17.15 - 18.00

Closing Remarks

Professor Andrew Webber

18.30 - 20.00

Dinner

*With thanks to the Department of German and Dutch*