

The Publishing Sphere — Ecosystems of Contemporary Literatures

The realm of writing has never been so extensive; nor has the idea of publication ever been so plural. Not a day passes without a great percentage of humanity publishing one or numerous texts: on a blog, a social media network, or elsewhere thereby also affecting and blurring our notion of literature.

A two-day program of performative live publishing will investigate this emerging sphere with talks and conversations, readings, sound performances, interventions, and more. *Radio Brouhaha*, launched at the event, will livestream (voicerepublic.com) the final evening, capturing sounds of ambiance and infrastructure.

The traditional idea of the solitary author in direct contact with his editor, and speaking *in absentia* to an anonymous public is obsolete. In recent years an abundance of literary practices—performances, public readings, sound and visual work, and new public spaces—have emerged, forming an artistic and political “publishing sphere.” If it is true that the imaginary of modern literature is constitutive of the fantasy of a “good” public sphere of democracy then we must find out what kind of societies are emerging from the publishing sphere we are faced with today.

At *The Publishing Sphere*, scholars, writers, artists, and representatives of initiatives will investigate the different locations of contemporary literatures between an abstract sphere and a material space. They will explore what constitutes a literary work beyond the materiality of the book, expose other forms of publishing besides texts, and survey the agents and players who inhabit the field. Alternating between roundtable discussions, performative miniature elements, workshop reach-outs, and literary readings, they will scrutinize their pre-reflections, research notes, image materials and literary references, in order to create a publishing sphere of their own.

The Publishing Sphere is convened by Lionel Ruffel (Université Paris 8) with Annette Gilbert (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen) in cooperation with Franziska Morlok (Fachhochschule Potsdam).

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The Publishing Sphere is one of the *Literary Investigations* taking place in the run-up to the 9th Internationaler Literaturpreis 2017 awarded at Haus der Kulturen der Welt on July 6, 2017.

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Tuesday June 13, 2017
Conference Room 1

10:30–10:45
Prologue

Danny Snelson (Northwestern University, Illinois)
Reading it out Aloud—a Poet–Conference Interface (PCI)

10:45–11:45
Welcome / Introduction

Bernd Scherer (HKW, director)
Lionel Ruffel (Université Paris 8)

Franziska Morlok & students (FH Potsdam)
A Reader's Manual

11:45–12:05
Continent. Editorial Collective (Paul Boshears)
& *Radio Brouhaha* (Lionel Ruffel)
Aims/Procedures Formats of "The Publishing Sphere"

12:05–12:30
Introductory Round of Participants

12:30–13:30 Lunch break

13:30–16:00
1st session: SITES

moderated by Lionel Ruffel (Université Paris 8)

13:30–13:50 PRESENTATION
Gerald Raunig (European Institute for
Progressive Cultural Policies)
Dividual Writing

13:50–14:30 DIALOGUE
Olivier Marboeuf (director/curator of Espace
Khasma and Spectre Productions)
*A Place to Publish/to Publish a Space:
Khasma as Storytelling*

Manuel Bürger/Jakob Nolte (Tegel Media)
Tegel Media is first of all a Feeling

Short break

14:45–15:05 PRESENTATION
David Desrimais (publisher)
Making Books in the Digital Age

15:05–15:25 PRESENTATION
Margaret Hillenbrand (University of Oxford)
*Ducking the Firewall: 'Publishing' Tank Man
in China*

15:25–16:00 DISCUSSION
moderated by Lionel Ruffel

16:00–16:30 Coffee break

16:30–19:00
2nd Session: PROTOCOLS

moderated by Christiane Frohmann (publisher)

16:30–16:40 PRE-REFLECTION
Christiane Frohmann (publisher)
Publishing as a Cooperative Game

16:40–17:20 ROUNDTABLE
Miriam Rasch (researcher)
Texts from a Post-Digital World

Marcello Vitali-Rosati (University of Montreal)
Editorialization: Writing and Producing Space

17:20–18:00 ROUNDTABLE
Danny Snelson (writer, editor, archivist)
Protocol and the Poetics of Format

Gregor Weichbrodt (artist)
On Writing Books and Bots

Short break

18:20–19:00 DISCUSSION
moderated by Christiane Frohmann

19:00–20:30 Dinner break

20:30–22:00
Literary Salon

20:30–21:15 READING
Camille de Toledo (writer)
Every-where, Hirschfeldbar

20:30–22:00 Two sessions of shared Poetry
Readings, led by Thomas Boehm (author & journalist),
Conference Room Foyer

Bar on the HKW rooftop

Wednesday June 14, 2017
Conference Room 1

09:45–10:15
Prologue

François Bon (writer)
Formes d'une guerre

Ingo Niermann (writer)
Literature and Concentration

Mara Genschel (writer)
Bibliothek Dilletantisme

10:15–10:30
Introduction

Annette Gilbert (University of Erlangen)

10:30–13:00
3rd session: ATTENTION

moderated by Olga von Schubert (HKW,
arts and research manager)

10:30–10:50 PRESENTATION
Hanna Kuusela (University of Tampere)
*Desperate for Attention? Literature and the
Challenges of the Promise Economy*

10:50–11:50 ROUNDTABLE
Hanna Engelmeier (Goethe-Universität
Frankfurt am Main)
The Reading Scene

Vincent Broqua (writer, translator, professor of North
American Literature and Arts, Université Paris 8)
Circulating Forms of Attention

Elena Vogman (Freie Universität Berlin)
Viktor Shklovsky's Eccentric Sphere

Ingo Niermann/Mathias Gatza (writers)
Fiktion's mixed Experiences with Going Digital

Short break

12:00–13:00 PLENARY DISCUSSION
moderated by Vincent Broqua

13:00–14:00 Lunch break

14:00–16:30
4th session: IMAGINARIES

moderated by Tobias Haberkorn
(PhD Literary Studies, translator & journalist)

14:00–14:40 ROUNDTABLE
Hannes Bajohr (Columbia University)
Publishing/Publicing

Geert Lovink (media theorist & internet critic)
*Digital Publishing Strategies: Report from the
Institute of Network Cultures*

14:40–15:25 TALK
François Bon (writer)
The Author as Ecosystem: The Case of H.P. Lovecraft

15:30–16:30 PERFORMANCE
Felwine Sarr (writer, musician, scholar)
Thinking the Present and the Future ...

16:30–17:00 Coffee break

17:00–18:00 INTERVIEW SESSION
continent. Editorial Collective
During the conference, *continent. Editorial Collective*
will sound out public-making potential of radio
through a Haus-specific micro-radio broadcast featuring
interview sessions with conference participants,
original sound creations, and ambient recordings.

18:00–19:00 Dinner break

19:00–22:00
Radio Brouhaha

Counter-Publishing Spheres featuring Felwine Sarr
& Binyavanga Wainaina, moderated by Paul Boshears

Literature Inside and Outside the Book featuring
Mara Genschel, Ho Tzu Nyen & David Desrimais,
moderated by Tobias Haberkorn

The Imperative of Creativity and Design featuring
Jan-Niklas Howe & Caleb Waldorf, moderated by Jamie
Allen

Literature, in the contemporary moment, is characterized
by the multiplication and diversification of its modes
of publication: books, performances, readings, salons,
groups, and various digital spaces. Radio Brouhaha
articulates the difference between a literature-silence,
typified by print, and a literature-brouhaha (of which
exhibitions, performances, in situ activations, and
multimedia artifacts are examples). Because radio as a
medium has thrived with the mutations presented by the
digital era and because radio is becoming increasingly
essential for the creation and diffusion of literature
outside the medium of books, Radio *Brouhaha* produces
live programs from sites of research and creation.