

Masks are an integral part of human culture. They have been a vital element of theatrical practices since antiquity and have always played a crucial role in ritual as well as artistic and literary activities throughout the world. Their innate tension springs from their capacity to both show and conceal as well as to imitate and create, thus displaying a structural analogy to the workings of mimesis. Masks have the ability to generate an oscillation between truth and illusion, an interplay between identity, difference and appropriation. In recent years, various artists, performers and political activists have been attracted to the object of the mask and have updated the powerful act of un/masking for our times.

This international and interdisciplinary conference brings together papers from various fields within the humanities. It seeks to connect diverging theories and methods in order to open new perspectives on numerous manifestations of the mask, ranging from Baroque theater, and turn-of-the century cabaret to modern facial recognition, from shamanistic practices to 18th-century aesthetics and digital art. In addition to addressing questions of identity in postcolonial societies and the usage of masks in political movements, the conference will also highlight figures of the mask in fashion, music, literature and 20th-century avantgardes. Discussing acts of un/masking in a diverse range of artistic media and a broad spectrum of contexts, this conference encourages theoretical reflection on its ambiguity and mimetic practices.

mimesis-doc.uni-muenchen.de

July 4
LMU Munich
Luisenstraße 37
80333 Munich

July 5+6
Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte
Katharina-von-Bora-Straße 10
80333 Munich

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ORGANIZATION

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 ZENTRALINSTITUT
FÜR KUNSTGESCHICHTE



Elite Network
of Bavaria



UN / MASKING ON A MIMETIC FORM



July 4–6, 2019
International Conference of
the Munich Doctoral Program
for Literature and the Arts
MIMESIS

GRAPHIC DESIGN: Tanja Schuez

Thursday, July 4

LMU, Luisenstraße 37, Room C106

4:00pm Registration

4:30pm **Tobias Döring** IDP Mimesis
Welcoming Address

4:45pm **Anna Baccanti, Johanna Spangenberg** IDP Mimesis
Un/masking: On a Mimetic Form

5:15pm **Agnes Hoffmann** University of Basel
Schminck und Schein: The Art and Power of Unmasking
in German Baroque Drama

6:00pm **Christiane Lewe** Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
Surface and Depth: The Revival of Physiognomy in
Deep Learning

6:45pm Break

7:00pm **Keynote Address: Bernhard Siegert** Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
Switching Perspectives: The Operative Ontology of the Transformation
Masks of the American Northwest Coast
Chair: Sebastian Althoff

PANEL I
REVEALING MASKS
Chair: Joana Mylek

Friday, July 5

Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, Room 242

9:00am **Ulrich Pfisterer** Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte Munich
Welcoming Address

9:15am **Keynote Address: Joyce Cheng** University of Oregon
The Surrealists on Style: Toward a Theory of Expression as Masquerade
Chair: Antonia Stichnoth

10:30am Coffee Break

11:00am **Tim Beasley-Murray** University College London
Against Politics as Self-Disclosure and Inclusion:
The Anti-Politics of Masking

11:45am **Sarah Hegenbart** TU Munich
Redressing History in South Africa: Sethembile Msezane
and Mary Sibande and their Masking of the Black Body

12:30pm **Vita Peacock** University of Cambridge
Masks and Initiatory Transformation in Anonymous

1:15pm Lunch Break
Marc Adamczack IDP Mimesis
Guided Tour of the Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte

2:45pm **Carolyn Bohn** TU Braunschweig
Somewhere between Realities: Structures of
Un/masking in German 18th-century Aesthetics

3:30pm **Bethan Hughes** University of Leeds
Corpsing: CGI as Grotesque Realism in the Work of
Ed Atkins

4:15pm **Laurette Burgholzer** University of Bern
Neutral Masks, Significant Bodies: Heritage,
Exoticism and Depersonalization in Actors' Training in
France in the Early 20th Century

5:00pm Coffee Break

5:30pm **Keynote Address: W. Anthony Sheppard** Williams College, MA
Morality and Meaning in Vocal Masking
Chair: Johanna Spangenberg

PANEL II
UN/MASKING POLITICS
Chair: Simon Gröger

Saturday, July 6

Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, Room 242

9:00am **Elisa Leroy** IDP Mimesis
'Such a questionable shape': Un/masking the Ghost
as Actor and Author in Hamlet

9:45am **Eleonore Zapf** University of Innsbruck
Thoughts Becoming Persons: Fernando Pessoa's
Poetic Carnival

10:30am **Judith Kemp** Deutsches Museum Munich
'Wüstes Farbengetändel': Peter Altenberg's 'Masken'
in 'Cabaret Fledermaus'

11:15am Coffee and Snacks
Anja Wächter IDP Mimesis
Guided Tour of the Photographs of Stefan Moses:
Creative Incognito – Stefan Moses' Artists Behind Masks

12:15pm **Keynote Address: Barbara Vinken** LMU Munich
Un ballo in maschera
Chair: Anna Baccanti

1:30pm **Sebastian Althoff, Antonia Stichnoth** IDP Mimesis
Concluding Remarks

PANEL IV
MASKING THE (IM)MATERIAL:
EMBODIMENT AND ABSTRACTION
Chair: Bettina Vitzthum