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