

**Workshop**  
**Thursday**  
**22 May 2014**  
**11:00 – 18:00**  
**In English**

The term anatopy deriving from the Greek prefix *aná* (upwards, but also backwards and against) and the noun *tópos* (place, position) is a multistable notion that pushes us to rethink space in its relation to time. Anatopy is the name for an error on a map, and nonetheless retains the potential to challenge positivist assumptions about the representation of space. Anatopies thus invoke operations of displacement divorcing places from their supposedly fixed topographical position, performative acts that undo standardized spatialities, whether those be the cartographic space of geography or the fetishized space of globalization, the extensional semantics of classical logic or spatial schematizations in art, dance, and literature.

Rephrasing Jacques Rancière's call for a historiography based on anachrony, the workshop seeks to "redeem spatialities from a homogeneous and linear understanding" through an investigation of theories, methods, and acts that challenge and sabotage our normative conceptions of space and time.

**Michele Cometa** is Professor of Comparative Literature and Visual Culture at the University of Palermo. His research focuses on German and European literature, aesthetics and culture in the period between the eighteenth and the twentieth centuries.

**Russel West-Pavlov** is Professor of English at the University of Tübingen, Germany, and Research Associate at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. Previously, he taught in Pretoria and Berlin.

**Wolfgang Struck** is Professor of Modern German Literature at the University of Erfurt. His research revolves around film and television history, poetics and science, and the relation between the documentary and the fictitious.

**John David Rhodes** is Reader in Literature and Visual Culture at Sussex University. His research focuses on cinema's engagement with other aesthetic forms and on the mutual implication of theory and material history.

**Jamila Mascát, Stefano Osnaghi, and Filippo Trentin** are Fellows at the ICI Berlin.

#### Programme

11:00 Jamila Mascát, Filippo Trentin and Stefano Osnaghi (ICI Berlin)

#### What is an Anatopy?

11:15 Wolfgang Struck (University of Erfurt)

#### Atlas, revised

12:15 Russel West-Pavlov (University of Tübingen)

#### From the Social Constructions of Space to the Spatial Construction of Society

13:15 **Lunch break**

15:30 John David Rhodes (Sussex University)

#### The Spectacle of Property

16:30 Michele Cometa (University of Palermo)

#### Blankspaces. Rereading Goethe's Elective Affinities

17:30 **Discussion**

The workshop will be followed by the dance performance *Giuda* by mk (20:00).

The workshop and the dance performance are a cooperation between the ICI Berlin, Bard College Berlin, a Liberal Arts University, and the Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Berlino

**For a Critique of Spatial Reason**

**Bard College Berlin**  
A LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY



Italianisches Kulturinstitut Berlin

Kulturabteilung  
Italienische Botschaft

ICI Kulturlabor Berlin  
ICI Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry  
Christinenstraße 18/19, Haus 8  
D – 10119 Berlin  
Tel: +49 (0)30 473 7291 – 10  
www.ici-berlin.org  
U – Bhf. Senefelder Platz (U2)

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BERLIN INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL INQUIRY