

Thomas  
Feuerstein

PSYCHOPROSA

29.05.—  
30.08.2015

FRANKFURTER  
KUNSTVEREIN

Wir danken:  
hessische  
kultur  
stiftung  
HESSEN Hessisches Ministerium  
für Wissenschaft und Kunst  
BUNDESKANZLERAMT ÖSTERREICH  
KUNST  
tirol  
österreichisches kulturforum

Trevor  
Paglen

The Octopus

20.06.—  
30.08.2015

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JOURNAL

## Accompanying Program of the exhibitions Thomas Feuerstein: PSYCHOPROSA and Trevor Paglen: The Octopus

An extensive program of panel discussions, expert lectures, and excursions will accompany the exhibitions.

Friday, June 19, 7 pm

Opening of the exhibition Trevor Paglen: The Octopus  
(as part of the opening of the RAY 2015 Triennial at MMK Frankfurt)

8.30 pm at Frankfurter Kunstverein: Trevor Paglen will announce the winner of the Eagle-Eye Photo Contest

Sunday, June 21, 2 pm

Award ceremony for the 2015 Cultural Prize being  
presented to Trevor Paglen by the German Photographic Association (DGPh)

Speakers: Franziska Nori, Director Frankfurter Kunstverein, and Ditmar Schädel  
Chairman of the DGPh.

Laudatory speaker: Tom Holert, Berlin

### Panel discussion

Saturday, June 20, 8 pm

The Art of Surveillance

Panel discussion with Trevor Paglen (Artist), Prof. Dr. Klaus Günther (Professor of Legal Theory, Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure, Co-Spokesperson for the Cluster of Excellence), Franziska Nori (Director of the Frankfurter Kunstverein) and Dr. Valentin Rauer (Sociologist and Postdoctoral Researcher in the Cluster of Excellence)  
Moderator: Rebecca Caroline Schmidt (Managing Director of the Cluster of Excellence)

The alleged necessity of modern surveillance systems, as the artist Trevor Paglen shows in his photographs, is justified by the need to defend Western values. Yet, a basic tenet of democracy is privacy. Why the already seemingly limitless surveillance has the potential to abolish the rule of law, even though it is supposed to protect it, is the subject of the panel discussion organized by the Cluster of Excellence. Trevor Paglen and the Director of the Frankfurter Kunstverein, Franziska Nori, will participate; from the Cluster of Excellence, the participants will include Klaus Günther, its Co-

Spokesperson and professor of legal theory, criminal law and criminal procedure, as well as the sociologist and postdoctoral researcher in the Cluster of Excellence, Valentin Rauer, who is researching the relationship between security culture and the development of civilian surveillance drones.

Prof. Dr. Klaus Günther is professor of legal theory, criminal law and criminal procedure at Goethe University Frankfurt am Main and Co-Spokesperson of the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders." His main areas of research include philosophy of law, theory of legal discourse and theory of legal reasoning, law and literature, as well as foundational issues of criminal law. Selected publications: *Der Sinn für Angemessenheit* [The Claim for Adequacy] (Suhrkamp) and *Schuld und kommunikative Freiheit* [Crime and Communicative Freedom] (Vittorio Klostermann).

Dr. Valentin Rauer is a sociologist and a postdoctoral researcher in the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders" at Goethe University Frankfurt am Main. His main areas of research include the study of security culture, digitization, migration and globalization, as well as materiality and the culture of memory in post-conflict societies. On the subject of "security," his publications include: "Interobjektivität: Sicherheitskultur aus Sicht der Akteur-Netzwerk-Theorie" [Interobjectivity: Security Culture from the Perspective of Actor-Network Theory.], in Daase, Christopher, et al. (ed.): *Sicherheitskultur. Gesellschaftliche und politische Praktiken der Gefahrenabwehr* [Security Culture: Social and Political Practices of Security], pp. 69-81 (Campus).

Rebecca Caroline Schmidt studied law at Goethe University Frankfurt am Main and has been Managing Director of the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders" since the beginning of the second funding period on November 1, 2012. She has previously acted on a variety of university research projects, both in a scientific capacity and as a coordinator..

The event will take place as part of the exhibition *Trevor Paglen: The Octopus*, June 20 to August 30, 2015 at the Frankfurter Kunstverein, in cooperation with the Frankfurter Kunstverein and the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders" at Goethe University Frankfurt am Main.

Free Admission

## Lectures and artist talk

Thursday, July 2, 7.30 pm

### Macromolecular Complexes – The Switches of Life

Lecture by Prof. Dr. Volker Dötsch (Executive Director, Institute for Biophysical Chemistry, Goethe University Frankfurt am Main)

Tubes meander throughout the exhibition spaces of the Frankfurter Kunstverein, connecting the laboratory apparatuses and objects in Thomas Feuerstein's installation in a functioning experimental set-up. A slow-moving slime that molds itself into a liquid sculpture emerges from algae and fungi. Various chemical processes lead to the extraction of a synthetic hallucinogen, which exerts a psychotropic effect that would affect human perception if ingested and cause solid objects to dissolve.

As the Greek philosopher Heraclitus wrote in his doctrine on the unity of all things, "Everything flows." This saying gains a new, contemporary significance when considered against the findings in cell biology. All living things are composed of cells. Thus, understanding life means first and foremost understanding cells. Numerous organisms are single-celled organisms that, in the smallest of spaces, produce energy, metabolize and synthesize all of the compounds necessary for life and reproduce as a result of biochemically-driven processes.

Prof. Volker Dötsch is a specialist in structural biology, which he combines with research in biochemistry and cell biology in order to study the regulation of biochemical processes in cells. In his lecture, he will consider Thomas Feuerstein's

work from his perspective as a molecular biologist and explain its underlying scientific concept.

In 1991, Prof. Volker Dötsch wrote his dissertation at the ETH Zurich. After receiving his doctorate, he pursued studies in biophysics as a postdoctoral fellow at the Harvard Medical School in the United States in 1994. He continued his academic career at UCSF in San Francisco from 1998 to 2003, where he also taught as an assistant professor. Since 2003, Volker Dötsch has held a chair in Biophysical Chemistry at the Institute of Biophysical Chemistry in Frankfurt.

Thursday, July 9, 7pm

Tour of the exhibition PSYCHOPROSA with the artist Thomas Feuerstein

Since receiving degrees in Art History and Philosophy, Thomas Feuerstein has developed a sculptural approach as a visual artist that can be described as boundary-crossing, experimental and universalist. The frame of reference for his works is broad: it refers to art history and cultural history, philosophy, literature, science, economic theory and economics, but also to the most recent media and network theories, current scientific discourses, belief systems, and science fiction.

On a guided tour through the exhibition, which consists of a single large installation, Thomas Feuerstein will guide participants through the installation's various rooms. He will explain how his interest in biotechnology, molecules and atoms, as well as his work with slime, find themselves expressed in the PSYCHOPROSA installation through scientific research and artistic vision.

The guided tour fee is 3 € plus admission.

Wednesday, July 15, 8 pm

Kultur-Lounge: An Explanation of Secrecy - An Evening with Prof. Dr. Harald Müller (HSFK)

With an event dedicated to the issue of security and democracy, the Culture Lounge picks up on themes presented/dealt with in the exhibition "Trevor Paglen: The Octopus" (June 20 to August 30, 2015 at the Frankfurter Kunstverein). The Dagger Complex, at which multiple United States intelligence units are stationed, is right on Frankfurt's doorstep. Trevor Paglen strives to make such places visible and photographs that which by all means should remain hidden from the public: military installations, offices (headquarters?) of secret organizations and surveillance facilities. But what do Paglen's images mean for us? Don't they simply show a new form in/ a new approach to/ a different take on? the old logic of security and peace? What does secrecy mean for democracy? Our guest Harald Müller can explain the invisible with ease. Issues such as the German/Germany's foreign and national security policies or the proliferation of small arms are daily routine for the head of the Peace Research Institute in Frankfurt. Usually, governments ask for his advice. On this evening, it will be our turn to discuss international relations.

Prof. Dr. Harald Müller studied German, sociology, philosophy, and political science at Goethe University in Frankfurt and is a professor of international relations. He is the Executive Director of the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Vice-President of the "EU Consortium for Non-Proliferation" and recipient of the Wilhelm-Leuschner Medal. The evening will be moderated by Dr. Friederike von Franqué, with an introduction from Franziska Nori (Director of the Frankfurter Kunstverein).

An event organized by the Cultural Board of Frankfurt in cooperation with the Frankfurter Kunstverein.

Wednesday, July 22, 7pm

The (In)Visibility of Power

Lecture by Prof. Dr. Rainer Forst (Co-Spokesperson of the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders" and Professor of Political Theory and Philosophy at Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main)

Trevor Paglen's images make secret places of power visible. Yet contrary to the view that this might also make the exercise of power visible, we must also investigate their hidden effects?.

Prof. Dr. Rainer Forst is professor of political theory and philosophy at Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main and Co-Spokesperson of the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders." His main areas of research include theories of justice, tolerance, and democracy. Forst was the recipient of the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize in 2012 and became a member of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities in 2014. His publications include *Toleranz im Konflikt* [Tolerance in Conflict], *Das Recht auf Rechtfertigung* [The Right to Defense], *Kritik der Rechtfertigungsverhältnisse* [Critique of Defense Conditions], and *Die Herausbildung normativer Ordnungen* [The Formation of Normative Orders] (all published by Suhrkamp).

The event will take place as part of the exhibition *Trevor Paglen: The Octopus*, June 20 to August 30, 2015 at the Frankfurter Kunstverein, in cooperation with the Frankfurter Kunstverein and the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders" at Goethe University Frankfurt am Main.

Saturday, July 25, 9pm

#### Satellite Observation

Lecture in German followed by observation outdoors with Volker Heinrich (Frankfurt Observatory, Physics Association)

To find the secret sites of surveillance, one doesn't necessarily need to travel to the Nevada desert where the secret military base "Area 51" is located. It suffices to simply look up at the night sky over Frankfurt and observe the small points drifting through the stars there. This is also a place where the surveillance state becomes apparent.

Since 1950, when the first satellites were launched into space, many more have been added. They document the weather, conduct research in astronomy, geodesy and cartography, but also monitor and transmit data. The International Space Station is one of the largest satellites.

Volker Heinrich has been interested in astronomy since his childhood and has worked for the Frankfurt Observatory for many years. After a brief introduction at the Frankfurter Kunstverein, a group observation of the night sky will take place.

## Guided tours

Guided tours of both exhibitions take place every other Sunday at 2 pm. A guided tour of one of the exhibitions takes place every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

Dates:

On Sundays at 2 pm a guided tour of both exhibitions takes place on:  
31.05.2015; 14.06.2015; 28.06.2015; 12.07.2015; 26.07.2015; 23.08.2015

On Thursdays at 6.30 pm a guided tour takes place:

4.06.2015 of the exhibition Thomas Feuerstein: PSYCHOPROSA  
18.06.2015 of the exhibition Thomas Feuerstein: PSYCHOPROSA  
2.07.2015 of the exhibition Trevor Paglen: The Octopus  
16.07.2015 of the exhibition Trevor Paglen: The Octopus  
30.07.2015 of the exhibition Thomas Feuerstein: PSYCHOPROSA

13.08.2015 of the exhibition Trevor Paglen: *The Octopus*  
27.08.2015 of the exhibition Thomas Feuerstein: *PSYCHOPROSA*

The guided tour fee is 3 € plus admission.

## Special event

August 28 to 30

Museum Festival

Saturday, August 29 | 5pm: Guided tour of the exhibitions *Thomas Feuerstein: PSYCHOPROSA* and *Trevor Paglen: The Octopus*

Sunday August 30 | 2pm: Guided tour of the exhibitions *Thomas Feuerstein: PSYCHOPROSA* and *Trevor Paglen: The Octopus*

*PSYCHOPROSA*, Austrian artist Thomas Feuerstein's first major institutional solo exhibition in Germany, presents biochemical processes that become molecular sculptures. Tubes meander throughout the rooms of the exhibition, connecting laboratory apparatuses and objects in an experimental arrangement.

American artist Trevor Paglen's comprehensive exhibition *The Octopus* deals with topics such as surveillance and political influence. On display are intensely colored landscapes in the age of Big Data, photography series of military bases and secret surveillance operations, video works, research materials, and new interactive works.

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