

BODIES IN ACTION

Gesture and the Interruption of Violence

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

VIENNA: MAY 15—17 2025

📍 Dekanatsaal, Katholische Theologie
Universitätsring 1, Stiege 8, 2. Stock.

Thursday 2–3:45pm

Introductory Remarks and Welcome

Matthew Roller (Johns Hopkins University)

Orator and Actor: Competing Models of the Eloquent Body in Ancient Rome

Christoph Wulf (Humboldt Universität Berlin)

Strategies of Change: New Gestures in the Anthropocene

Moderation: Kathrin Breimayer

Thursday 4:15–5:45pm

Marina Rauchenbacher (Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien)

Bodies Entangled Detached: Embodying Violence in Comics

Luca Viglialoro (Universität Essen)

Towards a Politics of 'Pure Mediality': Kiefer's Aesthetics of the 'Fateful Gesture'

ON ZOOM **Nikita Dhawan** (Technische Universität Dresden)

Violence, Nonviolence

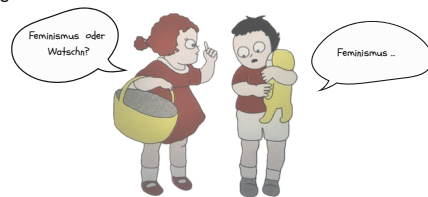
and Mastering the Art of Throwing Away One's Life

Moderation: Clarissa Breu

Thursday 7:30pm

Stefanie Sargnagel: Reading & Conversation

📍 LOCATION Österreichische Gesellschaft für Literatur, Palais Wilczek, Herrengasse 5, Stiege 1, 2. Stock.



Friday 10am–12pm

Ido Ben Harush (Yale University)

The Gesture That Halts: Vilém Flusser and the Radical Potential of Ritual Gestures

Jennifer Glancy (Le Moyne College)

Escaping Her Grasp: Joseph, Potiphar's Wife, and the Interruption of Violence

Clarissa Breu (Universität Wien)

Writing on the Earth: Mediality, Interruption and Jesus's Double Gesture in John 7:53-8:11

Moderation: Sarah Herzog

Friday 2–4pm

Doris Kolesch (Freie Universität Berlin)

Disrupting the Politics of Listening: Sound Interventions by Lawrence Abu Hamdan

Silke Felber (Kunstuniversität Linz)

Gesturing Towards the Materiality of Power and Violence: Benjamin, Butler, and the Bronze Bust

Martina Gimplinger (Akademie der Bildenden Künste Wien)

Reckoning With Histories Of Extreme Violence: Heimrad Bäcker's and Clara Furey's Aesthetic Embodiments of Care

Moderation: Julia Ostwald

Friday 4:30–6:30pm

Julia Prager (Technische Universität Dresden)

After the hesitation. Paralysis of the Right-Wing Shift

Sophie Schweiger (Yale University)

Schlingensiefel's Shibboleth: Linguistic Gestures in *Foreigners Out!*

Julia Stenzel (Leibniz Universität Hannover)

By Coincidence? Repetition, Interruption, and Neurodivergence in the Debate on Elon Musk's Nazi-Gesture and its Reenactments

Moderation: Freda Fiala

7pm CONFERENCE DINNER Restaurant Rebhuhn

Saturday 9:45–11am

Barbara Grespi (Università degli Studi di Milano Statale)

Cinema as Gesture: Between Marcel Jousse and Harun Farocki

Lucia Ruprecht (Freie Universität Berlin)

Plotting Gestures, Gestural Plots: The Scandalous Choreography of Ligia Lewis

Moderation: Sophie Schweiger

Saturday 11:15am–1pm

Evrin Ersan Akkılıc (Dokumentationsarchiv des

Österreichischen Widerstands)

Masculine, Violent and Popular: The Turkish Ultranationalist's Wolf Salute as a Political Gesture

Ranja Ebrahim & Durdane Kılıçdağ (Universität Wien)

'The One': The Hijacked Gesture of Unity in Diversity

Moderation: Silke Felber

Closing Discussion