SYMPOSIUM

FOR – OR AGAINST ? – METHOD

Against Method

CROSS-DISCIPLINARY STRATEGIES

FOR AGAINST METHOD

On the Powers and Pitfalls of Working Across Disciplines

Over the past decade, cross-disciplinarity has increasingly established itself as a working practice between artistic and scientific fields. The crossing of disciplinary or genre boundaries might almost be seen as an unspoken norm of contemporary knowledge production – a production in which hybrid artistic approaches are becoming ever more central.

In a multiperspectival – and, where possible, itself cross-disciplinary – manner, the symposium will explore the multiple promises and forces, but also the possible pitfalls and adversities of working across disciplines. Fifty years after Paul Feyerabend's ***Against Method***, we want to examine what can be gained today from impulses that break disciplinary boundaries, and whether a particular quality of cross-disciplinary work might paradoxically lie in being "methodically unmethodical".

Symposium with

Chiara Ambrosio, Oscar Bastiaens, Peter Hochenauer, Ariane Koek, Ralo Mayer, Špela Petrič, Joshua Simon, Bronislaw Szerszynski, Vera Tollmann, Ulli Vilsmaier, and Ties van de Werff.

University of Applied Arts Vienna
Vordere Zollamtsstraße 7, Auditorium

www.crossdisciplinary.at

CROSS-DISCIPLINARY STRATEGIES

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Universität für angewandte Kunst Wien
University of Applied Arts Vienna

FOR AGAINST METHOD

12. + 13. NOVEMBER 2026

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17:15

Welcome

Opening by Ulrike Kuch
Rector of the University of Applied Arts

Introduction by Christian Höller,
Head of Department
Cross-Disciplinary Strategies

17:30

INTER, CROSS & TRANS

Peter Hochenauer:
Before We Cross: What Counts as Knowledge?

Ulli Vilsmaier: **Transgress, Transcend, Transform? The Goal Determines the Path**

Panel Moderation by Christian Höller

19:00

Lecture Performance I

Ralo Mayer: **Plots of Un·Earthing, or How I Began to Dig Ambivalence**

Introduction by Yona Schreyer

13. NOVEMBER

11:00

SCIENCE FRICTION(S)

Joshua Simon: **Metastability – Constellations of Unresolved Potential**

Vera Tollmann: **New Methods? Critical Heat Studies and Cross-Disciplinary Research in the Thermocene**

Panel Moderation by Nina Bandi

– Lunch Break between 12:30 - 14:00 –

14:00

THE USE AND MISUSE OF METHODS

Chiara Ambrosio: **A Feyerabendian Plea for Method(s) as Critique**

Bronislaw Szerszynski: **Method at the Threshold: Interdisciplinarity and the Anthropocene**

Panel Moderation by Adnan Balcinovic

– Coffee Break between 15:30 and 16:00 –

16:00

Lecture Performance II

Špela Petrič: **On Performative Ethnographies**

Introduction by Gudrun Ratzinger

16:30

BUT IS IT ART?

Oscar Bastiaens & Ties van de Werff:
When Artists Leave the Studio: Crossing Borders in the Classroom, the Hospital, and Educational Bureaucracy

Ariane Koek: **Creative Collisions – How to Build an Arts Science Collider**

Panel Moderation by Tanja Traxler

CROSS-DISCIPLINARY STRATEGIES

Christian Höller, Adnan Balcinovic, Nina Bandi, Andrea Nejo, Gudrun Ratzinger, Yona Schreyer, Tanja Traxler

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