



Objects. Between Absorption and Isolation

17 – 19
October 2024

Location:
Palazzo Grifoni
Budini Gattai,
in Florence

& online

Symposium organized by
the Lise Meitner Group
"Coded Objects"
at the Kunsthistorisches
Institut in Florenz –
Max-Planck-Institut

Thursday, 17 October

12:00pm – Guided tour of the KHI Photothek
Meeting point at the entrance of Via Gustavo Modena 13, Firenze

3:00 – 4:00pm – Introduction
Anna-Maria Meister ^{KHI and Karlsruhe Institute of Technology}

4:00 – 7:00pm

1 → **Magical Objects**
Chair: Neilabh Sinha ^{KHI and Leiden University}

Ida Colangelo and Kathrin Borgers ^{University of Cologne}
*Between Material Evidence and Forgotten Curiosity:
An Unusual Relic in the Gräfrath Monastery*

Sandrine Welte ^{Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia}
*Objects in Motion: Late Antique Magical Artefacts
as Liminal Spaces and Mobile Ritual Sites*

Cristóbal Amunátegui ^{UCLA}
*Machines of State and Machines Chance:
The Case of the Totalizator in Nineteenth-Century*

Coffee Break

6:00pm – Response: Laurent Stalder ^{ETH Zurich}
& Discussion

Break

7:30–9:00pm
**Listening to the Nightingale
An Evening with ESTAR(SER)**
D. Graham Burnett, Justin E.H. Smith-Ruii and
Catherine L. Hansen

Friday, 18 October

9:00am – 12:00pm

2 → **Resistance, Replication &
Resilience**
Chair: Anna Luise Schubert ^{KHI}

Marie Meyerding ^{Dresden University of Technology}
*Environmental Feminist Art Fabricating Freedom:
Textiles, Censorship and Environmental
Art in the GDR*

Taavi Hallimäe ^{Estonian Academy of Arts}
*Hitting the Slopes of Capitalism:
The Case Study of the Ski Boots from the
Soviet Estonian Factory Salvo in Late 80s*

Malcolm Noble ^{University of Nottingham}
*Leaky and Absorbent Books: Material Paratexts
and Contemporary Queer Print Culture*

Coffee Break

11:00am – Response: Rebecca Carrai ^{KHI}
& Discussion

Lunch Break

01:30 – 4:30pm

3 → **Emerging Formations**
Chair: Karina Pawlow ^{KHI and University of Cologne}

Galaad Van Daele ^{ETH Zurich}
*Expressive Rocks and Geoarchitectural Histories:
Lessons from the Grotto*

Tamar Zinguer ^{The University of Oklahoma}
The Grain: From Figure to Ground

Saskia Abrahms-Kavunenko ^{Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies}
*Anthropocene Ouroboros:
Shimmying Plastics and the Contamination of Time*

Coffee Break

3:30pm – Response: Clemens Finkelstein ^{Princeton University}
& Discussion

Break

5:00–7:00pm

4 → **Stabilizing Boundaries**
Chair: Oliver Aas ^{KHI and Cornell University}

Sarah Hearne ^{University of Colorado Denver}
*Stabilizing the Eroding Image: The 20th c., Project
of Permanence in the Mesa Verde Cliff Dwellings*

Ayala Levin ^{UCLA}
*The Fence and the Billboard: The Object of Land at
the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in
Ibadan, Nigeria, 1965–68*

Coffee Break

6:00pm – Response: Alina Payne ^{Villa I Tatti and Harvard University}
& Discussion

Saturday, 19 October

9:30am – 12:30pm

5 → **Extending Subjects**
Chair: Larissa Maria Müller ^{KHI}

Jocelyn Beausire ^{Princeton University}
*“Will it Change the Baby?”: Sonic Respatialization
and the Politics of Domestic Surveillance with
the Advent of Infant Monitoring Systems*

Ignacio G. Galán ^{Columbia GSAPP}
*Furnishings Like Us:
Object Identifications in Fascist Italy*

Elisa Palomino ^{Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History}
*Spirit and Skin: The Role of Fish Skin Objects
in Arctic Indigenous Cosmologies*

Coffee Break

11:30am – Response: Virginia Marano ^{KHI}
& Discussion

Lunch Break

02:00 – 5:00pm

6 → **Overwriting Attributes**
Chair: Lunarita Sterpetti ^{KHI}

Pratiti Ketoki ^{University of Minnesota} and Ipsa S ^{University of Wisconsin}
*Problematising the Object Turn:
Partition Histories and Politics of Remembering*

Rachel Lee ^{TU Delft} and Sarita Sundar ^{Bangalore}
*A Chair by Any Other Name?
Rewriting the Colonial Script*

Will Davis ^{Università della Svizzera italiana}
Bamboo Messages and Legacies of a Cryptic Letter

Coffee Break

4:00pm – Response: Ariella Minden
^{Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max-Planck-Institut für Kunstgeschichte}
& Discussion

5:00pm – Closing Remarks

Accompagnying Artist:
Kendall Ross aka “I’d Knit That”

