

Gregor Vogt-Spira, Marburg

Augustus and the ‘invention’ of cultural policy*

Let us travel back in time to Rome in 31 BC. The previous fifty years had been marked by civil war and bitter party struggles, the public interest had been completely forgotten, insecurity and violence were the order of the day, and in the end there was only one victor: Octavian, who soon took the name Augustus. In retrospect, this victory has been interpreted as a turning point: indeed, 44 years later, when Augustus died in 14 AD, there was a widespread feeling that a period of prosperity and order, a golden age, had been experienced, for which a contemporary even suggested the name ‘Augustan Century’.¹

How does such an emotional turnaround from deep depression and confusion to a positive self-image of a society that perceives itself as determined by happiness and prosperity come about? The archaeologist Paul Zanker has found the key in cultural policy. In a groundbreaking book, he shows that over a period of more than 20 years, Augustus systematically pursued a cultural programme that led to a fundamental change in public opinion by enabling the establishment of a positive cultural identity; a cultural programme, incidentally, that should not be misunderstood as the work of a propaganda apparatus, but rather as the strategic use of existing cultural resources.²

The organiser probably had this unusual process in mind when he asked for a short paper on ‘Augustus and the invention of cultural policy’. However, ‘the invention of cultural policy’ is a challenging label that requires clarification in two respects: firstly, to what extent there is an ‘invention’, and secondly, what exactly is meant by ‘cultural policy’. I do not want to go into these questions in depth – given the immense diversity of cultural concepts, it would hardly be possible to do so briefly. So let me just say this: there was no such comprehensive strategic use of cultural policy before Augustus, neither in Rome nor anywhere else in Europe, and so the label ‘invention’ is not entirely unjustified.³ For the concept of culture, I will, for the sake of simplicity, use the orientation of the Kulturstiftung der Länder, which sees culture as “the totality of cultural expressions – material and immaterial – that people produce in their encounters with their environment in order to express ideas and values and to determine their place in this world”.⁴ This seems to overlap with the Saxon Cultural Area Act, the anniversary of which is the occasion for this conference, and at the same time allows a bridge to be built to what Augustus is undertaking.

And now to Augustus. His cultural programme had both a structural and a substantive dimension. Structurally, he undertook a far-reaching remodelling of public space through huge construction projects that renewed or expanded the infrastructure while creating new public spaces. This profoundly changed the general attitude to life. In terms of content, he does not have to reinvent the wheel; instead, he takes decades of moral criticism about the decline of public life literally and uses it as a framework for action

* Lecture held on 24 May 2024 in Görlitz in the context of the conference “Against the Grain. Cultural Policy in History and in Saxony Today: 30 Years of the Saxon Cultural Region Act – 30 Years of the Saxonian Institute for Cultural Infrastructure”. The form of the lecture has been retained, the slightly expanded version has been supplemented by the bibliographical references.

1 The information in Suetonius’ biography of Augustus (*Augustus* 100).

2 Paul Zanker, *Augustus und die Macht der Bilder* (Augustus and the Power of Images), München 21990; for more on the book’s programme, which focuses specifically on visual communication, see the introduction 11-14. Most recently, Karl-Joachim Hölkamp, *Theater der Macht. Die Inszenierung der Politik in der römischen Republik* (Theatre of Power. The Staging of Politics in the Roman Republic), München 2023, 411-485; 571-584 (with an extensive bibliography).

3 Cf. Zanker (see footnote 2), 107.

4 Kulturstiftung der Länder (<https://www.kulturstiftung.de/leitbild-kulturstiftung-der-laender/>, last accessed on 31 July 2024).

to replace what is vehemently lamented as a grievance with a positive counter-image – and does so almost systematically. What is surprising, then, is not the content, which is extremely present as an ideal, but rather the “unexpected, for many contemporaries verging on the miraculous [...] that the new ruler made this eternal lament the subject of serious political action”.⁵

In the following, I would like to focus on structures and briefly consider three areas of cultural policy: theatre, the promotion of literature and the visual design of public spaces. First of all, the theatre, which plays an important role in Rome. Originally, it was part of the festivals dedicated to the gods, which were accompanied by festivals offering both sporting competitions and entertainment, such as tightrope walks or boxing matches, as well as dramatic performances, especially tragedies and comedies. It is interesting to note that, over time, the stage plays were considered to be the most attractive part of the festivities and were expanded. Audiences comprised people of all social classes, sexes and ages, including slaves. In this respect, the theatre in Rome is the quintessential mass medium: the place where the largest crowds gather. Since permanent assembly areas within the Roman walls were not permitted in such dimensions in Republican times, there were originally only wooden stages and seats that had to be rebuilt and knocked down each time. It was only in 55 BC, shortly before the end of the Republic, that the first stone theatre was built: the Theatre of Pompey.⁶

Under Augustus this became a building programme. In addition to the first stone amphitheatre, two other theatres were built on the Campus Martius, now a triad with a total of more than 40,000 seats: it was rightly said that a ‘true cultural centre’ had been created.⁷ Why such an investment? Irrespective of what was performed, the Roman theatre was first and foremost a space for social interaction and communication, which citizens had always used for political messages. There is ample evidence of the technique of demonstratively applauding verses that could be deciphered as political allusions. Augustus was very sensitive to this when a verse referring to a ‘lord’ received particularly enthusiastic applause and was interpreted as a comment on his position as sole ruler – a term that was culturally strictly frowned upon and would have undermined his acceptance.⁸ Overall, Augustus used the theatre, which he transformed into a mirror of the social structure of Roman society by means of a strict seating arrangement, as a central place to interact with and be seen by the citizenry. Not only did he go regularly to the theatre and apologise when he was absent, but he always followed the action with full attention, even when it was very long, and indicated when he enjoyed it – quite unlike Caesar, who dictated letters and worked on files during his visits to the theatre.⁹

In the Roman festival calendar, which structured the year with its fixed rhythm, there were more than 50 regular performance days for theatre productions in the Augustan period, as well as numerous irregular extra performance days; during the later Imperial period the number of festival and performance days increased significantly. Augustus invested not only a lot of time, but also a lot of money. It is said that he surpassed all his predecessors in the number, variety and splendour of the spectacles. In his account, which was displayed on tablets throughout the Roman Empire, he lists 67 games that he organised in his own name and in the name of others, and gives some information about the expenses incurred.¹⁰

The financing of the theatre is an interesting matter in itself. The games were organised by officials who were given a certain budget of state funds for this purpose. As these public funds were never sufficient,

5 See Zanker (supr. n. 2), 107-108, who then shows the systematic working through of the “whole negative catalogue of late republican cultural criticism” (107-170).

6 A comprehensive account of the phenomenon of Roman theatre is now provided by the volume edited by Salvatore Monda, Orietta Rossini and Lucia Spagnuolo, *Teatro. Autori, attori e pubblico nell'antica Roma* (Theatre. Authors, actors and audiences in ancient Rome), Roma – Bristol 2024; specifically on the time of Augustus, see Andrea Cucchiarelli, *Teatro, rappresentazione, mondo – al tempo di Augusto* (Theatre, performance, world – in the time of Augustus), 131-141.

7 Zanker (supr. n. 2), 152. Estimating the number of seats, here according to Zanker, is subject to some uncertainties; for the Pompey Theatre alone, antiquity records the number of 40,000 seats, which is, however, an exaggeration.

8 Sueton, *Augustus* 53.

9 Sueton, *Augustus* 45; for seating arrangements, see 44.

10 Sueton, *Augustus* 43; *Augustus, Res gestae* 22-23.

but the officials wanted to get ahead later, it became customary for them to pay the rest out of their own pockets - which then led to a competition to see who could stage the most magnificent games and thus buy the most votes. Augustus limited the explosion of costs, lamented by the historian Livy, by ordering that the budget provided by the state for the games should not exceed three times the amount provided by the official organising the games.¹¹

Of the plays that were performed, we know the titles of only a few; most of them have been completely lost. In principle, however, we should not imagine that Roman theatre audiences were too fixated on the content of the plays, notwithstanding a pronounced sense of political allusion. A satirical description by the contemporary poet Horace notes that one has the impression that the playwright is telling his play to a deaf donkey. The audience, it was said, was more interested in entertainment and spectacle; sometimes a play would be interrupted for four hours while interludes were staged, with cavalry and infantry chasing each other furiously across the stage with drawn sabres. Or an actor would be greeted with thunderous applause as he entered the stage, before he had uttered a word; the applause was for his costume, which was "a lifelike violet, straight from the poison kitchen of a Tarentine dyer".¹² In terms of cultural policy, this means that the focus is not on the content and transmission of ideological messages, although these were certainly present, but on the performances themselves and the joy and pleasure they brought.

This brings us to our second area, literature. It should be noted that the Augustan period is the apogee of Latin poetry. Even today we speak of 'Augustan literature': few rulers have had the honour of giving their name to a literary epoch. Such a golden age is not a direct result of cultural policy, but specific conditions play an important role, such as the fact that literature enjoyed great interest and high esteem, and that there was a pronounced climate of literary patronage. The name of Maecenas, one of Augustus' closest confidants who gathered a circle of leading poets around him, lives on in the term used for a sponsor in many languages to this day. A member of this 'Maecenas Circle' was paid the gigantic sum of one million sesterces for a tragedy performed at the celebration of the victory at Actium, with which Augustus had ended the civil war.

Augustus himself took a keen interest in literary events and even had poems recited to him. It is thanks to his intervention that one of the most important works of Latin literature, Virgil's *Aeneid*, was not burned after the author's death, as he had wished, but was preserved. Horace received a state commission for a poem as part of elaborate secular celebrations, and Augustus also requested a literary epistle from him. In this letter, however, the poet informs Augustus about the Roman literary scene in a way that does not correspond to his wishes and expectations: is this to be understood as a distancing or even a provocation?

How the writers related to a ruler who had both interest and interests is indeed one of the much-discussed questions. The interpretations lie between the poles of adaptation and resistance and vary greatly from one nation to another; not infrequently, they incorporate back projections from experiences with phases of conflict in more recent history. It is undeniable, however, that writers could not avoid taking a stand, largely due to the public status of literature in the Augustan period, which was situated in a highly political space; thus, changes and developments can sometimes be observed in individual poets.¹³ In general, their leeway must be considered considerable, but there were limits, and the princeps reacted harshly to any transgression: The example of Ovid, who was exiled to the Black Sea for reasons that are still disputed, shows this.

11 Dio Cassius, *Roman History* 54, 17, 4; for more on financing, see Loredana Cappelletti, *Die Finanzierung von Spielen in Italien und Hispanien gemäß den lokalen Stadtgesetzen (1. Jh. v. Chr. – 1. Jh. n. Chr.)* (The financing of games in Italy and Hispania according to local city laws (1st century BC – 1st century AD)), in: Kaja Harter-Uibopuu and Thomas Kruse (eds.), *Sport und Recht in der Antike*, (Sport and law in antiquity), Wien 2014, 167-194, here 180-181.

12 Horaz, *Epistulae* 2, 1, 177-207.

13 An overview is provided by Wilfried Stroh in an article on the Augustan heyday of poetry, in: Ralf von den Hoff, Wilfried Stroh and Martin Zimmermann, *Divus Augustus. Der erste römische Kaiser und seine Welt* (Divus Augustus. The first Roman emperor and his world), München 2014, 143-167.

Augustus seems to have been acutely aware of the fact that high-level literature cannot emerge from political control, especially in the first decade of his reign; here, his cultural-political strategy consists primarily of intensive participation in literary development and the status that he was able to establish for his cultural project in the process. The strategy was crowned with success: Frederick the Great noted, albeit critically, that the Augustan period was known primarily from contemporary poetry, and that, after all, Augustus owed much of his fame to Horace's lyre.¹⁴ It should be added, however, that later, when Augustus tried to intervene more, literary productivity declined as openness diminished.

This brings me to my final topic: the design of public space. Augustus boasted that he had found a city of brick and left behind a city of marble.¹⁵ Indeed, he embarked on an enormous building programme. These include, for example, temples – in his account of his deeds for the year 28 BC alone, he states that he had 82 temples restored and did not omit a single one that was in need of renovation.¹⁶ In doing so, he reacted to the cultural-critical diagnosis that the decline was due to the turning away from the gods. In his efforts to revive the worship of the gods, he signalled that he was restoring a deeply rooted, pre-legal guiding principle that was perceived as typically Roman: *pietas* – a term that is difficult to translate and means 'dutiful behaviour towards the gods, people, especially those in the immediate family, or the fatherland' and which became "the most important guiding principle of the Augustan state".¹⁷

Another aspect is the discrepancy between neglected public infrastructure and ostentatious private luxury, which had already caused massive dissatisfaction in the late Republic and had not been structurally changed by the fact that the bearers of wealth now came from Augustus' circle. The solution was to create magnificent facilities so that the people could also enjoy what was otherwise reserved for the rich. This led to the construction of the first public baths with hot water pools, extensive gardens and an artificial lake for swimming. Or a park just outside the city walls, which offered the Roman people "everything that made up the proverbial luxury of a villa", which, remarkably, was not limited to physical well-being, but also included the prestigious Greek culture, with the installation of works of art such as the very famous statue of 'The Self-Scraping' by the sculptor Lysippus. When Augustus' successor Tiberius later tried to move the statue to his own palace, the people showed their displeasure by shouting in the theatre and forcing its return. Augustus' cultural and political strategy of allowing the general public to participate in the Greek world of the gymnasium, sports and baths had been a success.¹⁸

I'm coming to a conclusion. I hope that these brief remarks have demonstrated the sophisticated and strategic way in which Augustus used the dimension of culture. The background to this is the Roman understanding of politics, for which consensus is fundamental: the basis of the political system is acceptance,¹⁹ and acceptance cannot be won against fundamental cultural convictions. Augustus had to walk a tightrope, because the power structure under his hand was transformed into a monarchy, which the Romans rejected as a form of government. It was therefore crucial that his policy be perceived as a restoration of the old republic and its cultural values,²⁰ which only then made possible a broad identification with the polity. Indeed, this cultural policy was so successful that it created stability. However, this was based on the fact that "even Augustus, as princeps and possessor of an *auctoritas* that towered above everyone and everything, ultimately had to submit to a culturally specific Roman power [...] to tradition".²¹

14 See Gregor Vogt-Spira, *Friedrich der Große und der Diskursraum der Antike. Literatur – Bildung – Politik* (Frederick the Great and the Discourse Space of Antiquity. Literature – Education – Politics), in: Arne Jönsson and Gregor Vogt-Spira (eds.), *The Classical Tradition in the Baltic Region*, Hildesheim – New York 2017, 333–362, here 361.

15 Sueton, *Augustus* 28, 3.

16 Augustus, *Res gestae* 20.

17 Zanker (see footnote 2), 108; on the programme of religious renewal based on it, 110–140.

18 Cf. Zanker (see footnote 2), 141 and 144–146, who categorises this under the generic term 'villa happiness for the people'; quote *ibid.* 146. The report of the protest against Tiberius' relocation of the Lysippus statue in Plinius, *Naturalis historia* 34, 62.

19 See Hölkeskamp (see footnote 2), *passim*.

20 On the constitutive paradox of this communicative premise, see Zimmermann in: *Divus Augustus* (supr. n. 13), 121.

21 Hölkeskamp (see footnote 2), 488.



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Cultural Policy against the Grain 流れに逆らう文化政策

liber amicorum for Matthias Theodor Vogt in honour of
his 65th birthday, edited by his colleagues and students

Dieter Bingen, Köln; Stefan Garsztecki, Chemnitz; Goro Christoph Kimura, Tokyo; Luigi Ferrara, Neapel; Peter Lah, Rom;
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Institute for Cultural Infrastructure Saxony, Upper Lusatia-Lower Silesia Cultural Area and Zittau/Görlitz University in cooperation with Chemnitz University of Technology and the Institute for Territorial Development of the Lower Silesian Voivodeship

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https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Kulturpolitik24Mai2024Goerlitz_PhotosZgraja_2024-06-01k.pdf

Presse

Andreas Hermann: Gepfeffelter Gruß aus Görlitz

(Spicy greetings from Görlitz)

Dresdner Neueste Nachrichten. Dresden, 31. Mai 2024. S.11.

Photo: Andreas Hermann, faktenreich Dresden

<https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Hermann-Dresdner-Neueste-Nachrichten-31.05.2024->

[Seite-11.pdf](#)



Peter Chemnitz: Wissenschaftler verabschieden Professor Vogt

(Scientists bid farewell to Professor Vogt)

Görlitzer Nachrichten Sächsische Zeitung, 29.Mai 2024, S. 16

https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/SZ-Goerlitz-29Mai2024_Wissenschaftler-verabschieden_Professor-Vogt.pdf

(1) Invitation

by Dr. Stephan Meyer, Landrat des Landkreises Görlitz (shire county president) and Chairman of the Cultural Convention for the Upper Lusatia-Lower Silesia Cultural Area

Thirty years ago – on 1 August 1994 – the Saxon Cultural Area Act came into force.

In the same month, the Institute for Cultural Infrastructure Saxony was founded to support the Cultural Area Act in research and teaching. In order to attract the experts needed for cultural policy, the institute and the Zittau/Görlitz University shortly afterwards established the Görlitz degree programme ‘Culture and Management,’ which now has around 500 graduates who are successfully working all over the world.

We would like to celebrate this with you and Professor Matthias Theodor Vogt, the ‘father’ of the Act, on Friday, 24 May 2024, in Görlitz. After 27 years, he is retiring from his university position with a keynote speech on the future of cultural areas in Saxony. In cooperation with the Institute for Cultural Infrastructure Saxony and the Zittau/Görlitz University, we invite you to a symposium with keynote speeches from academia and practice, as well as a panel discussion.

We don’t just want to celebrate and engage in navel-gazing within Saxony, but also to receive external input on the history and present of cultural policy in order to reflect together on the next thirty years of cultural spaces in Saxony. We have invited speakers from the Council of Europe, Tokyo, Riga, Naples, Krakow, Marburg and, of course, Görlitz, who will present core elements of state, municipal and independent cultural policy ‘against the grain’ in keynote speeches and short presentations. Afterwards, we will discuss with the chair of the Culture Committee in the Saxon State Parliament, members of the Culture Senate and Culture Convention, and representatives of the art scene.

(2) Welcome



Rector of Zittau/Görlitz University, Alexander Kratzsch
https://youtu.be/6Imh0TNbyIM?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_je3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0



(3) Introduction

Landrat Stephan Meyer, Görlitz: *Outline of current problems and expectations of municipal cultural policy in Saxony by the Chairman of the Cultural Convention of the Upper Lusatia-Lower Silesia Cultural Area,*
https://youtu.be/cjROQsTqrCY?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_je3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0

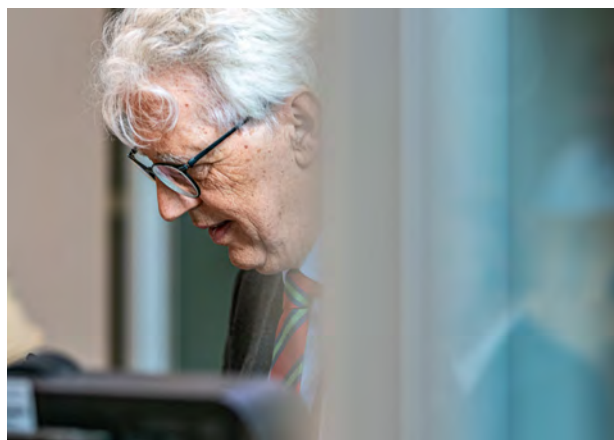
(4) Impulses: External suggestions for Saxony's cultural policy

Una Sedleniece, former State Secretary, Riga: *Memories of her time as a student in Görlitz from 1997 to 2001 in the first cohort of the UNESCO degree programme 'Culture and Management' in Görlitz at the Zittau/Görlitz University and the Institute for Cultural Infrastructure Saxony*
https://youtu.be/jKB-0Govtac?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0



Kimura Goro Christoph (Sophia-University, Tokyo): *Japan learns from Saxony*
https://youtube/3gVq1Btd5sc?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0

Gregor Vogt-Spira
 (Philipps University of Marburg):
Emperor Augustus and the invention of 'cultural policy'
https://youtube/00iVWcYxYT?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0



Róża Zuzanna Różańska (Jagiellonian University Krakow): *Royal cultural policy of the Baroque era*
https://youtu.be/o4rVJFW1Yp4?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0



Stefan Garsztecki (Chemnitz):

Province takes place in the mind

https://youtu.be/_XavYiqjEi0?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0



Beate Sibylle Pfeil
(Council of Europe expert):

Minorities in three classes.

Current language policy in Ukraine

https://youtu.be/ZPjNQLPoiPc?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0



Luigi Ferrara (University of Federico II Naples): The Saxon Cultural Areas Act as a model for Italian legislation?

https://youtu.be/yKympfBwEGo?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0

(5) Coffee break in the auditorium





(6) Keynote speech

Matthias Theodor Vogt (IKS and HSZG):
On the future of cultural areas in Saxony
https://youtu.be/M5HIZcKotuc?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0



(7) Discussion: 30 years of cultural areas in Saxony



Moderator: Cultural Secretary Annemarie Franke, Cultural Area Oberlausitz-Niederschlesien
 Theresa Jacobs (Leipzig): Sorbian Institute Bautzen and Leipzig Dance Theatre
 Franz Sodann MdL: Deputy Chairman of the Committee for Science, Higher Education, Media, Culture and Tourism in the Saxon State Parliament
 Thomas Zenker (Zittau): Lord Mayor and member of the convention
 Kirstin Zinke (Dresden): Senator for Culture and Managing Director of the Saxony State Association for Socio-Culture
https://youtu.be/Zev0Hpg3fYk?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0





(8) Closing remarks

Benedikt Hummel, Mayor for Culture of the City of Görlitz
as representative of the graduates of 'Culture and Management'
https://youtu.be/t7EuD-oQ_a4?list=PLwU1_FuHyok3HB_jc3E7rV8vtbJhOrrW0



Many thanks to all the hard-working helpers who made this conference possible:

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Clara Linnemayr [remote coordination from the USA], Zoe Schulmayer, Victoria Hentschel, Antonia Weber (students of „Culture and Management“)

Joanna Bär and Alexandra Grochowski (translators)

Johanna Metzner, student of culture and management, and her family from the ‘Bierblume Görlitz’
<https://www.bierblume-goerlitz.de/>

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INSTITUT FÜR
KULTURELLE INFRASTRUKTUR
SACHSEN

*30 Jahre
1994 – 2024*



Hochschule
Zittau/Görlitz



Freistaat
SACHSEN

Matthias Theodor Vogt, Görlitz
Photos von Andreas Zgraja, Görlitz

Documentation of the art night celebrating 30 years of IKS and the premiere of the film 'Görlitz Rhythms – A Dance of Cultures' at Benigna, Görlitz

<https://kultur.org/institut/30-years-iks/>



The Art Night took place at the 'Benigna' on Görlitz's Untermarkt, one of the city's most historically significant buildings. It is named after Benigna Horschel. On Pentecost Sunday 1464, she was impregnated by the mayor's son Georg Emmerich and then callously abandoned. The conflict between the Emmerich and Horschel families was to become a turning point in the city's history, far more exciting than the teenage drama Romeo and Juliet [https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Hoch_Benigna_Spannender-als-Romeo-und-Julia_in_Vogt-et-al-Benigna-2024-04-25.pdf].



In the fine tradition of debate among Görlitz students of 'Culture and Management' [https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Vogt_3Gruende-fuer-Goerlitz-als-Studiengangsort_Benigna-2024-04-25.pdf] with complex issues in the city and region (and often far beyond), the institute received an enquiry from Robert Lehleiter and Christian Weise. They wanted a concept for the use of the 'Benigna'. Supervised by Matthias Theodor Vogt and Maik Hosang, 12 female students and 1 male student explored this issue in a research seminar, in collaboration with council archivist Siegfried Hoche and a Bonn theatre group, supervised by René Harder.



The theory [download: https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Hoch_Benigna_Spannender-als-Romeo-und-Julia_in_Vogt-et-al-Benigna-2024-04-25.pdf] was put to the test at the art night on 24 May 2024.

Art Night

Photo documentation

[https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/IKS30y-Benigna24Mai2024_PhotosZgraja-k.pdf] with photos by Andreas Zgraja, Görlitz mail@andi.film.



Maestro Luca Lombardi and Miriam Meghnagi from Rome performed a work to mark the institute's 30th anniversary (world premiere and first joint performance of the couple).



Former Prime Minister Georg Milbradt from Dresden gave the laudatory speech.



Maria Davydchyk performed a Belarusian folk song.



Steffi Bärman from Zittau recited in the Upper Lusatian dialect.



Elisabeth Domsgen from Görlitz recited a ballad by Bürger.



Honorary Consul Stefan Liebing from Hamburg commended the research and institute projects on Africa.



Princess Esperance from Bafoussam sang a Cameroonian song.



Joseline Amutuhair performed a Ugandan dance, accompanied on the drums by Tomas Ondrusek from Waldheim.



Hans-Peter Struppe from Görlitz and Cornelia Wosnitza from Dresden sang cheeky modern songs.



The art night ended with a song by 21 former UNESCO students of 'Culture and Management' (class of 1997), who offered their congratulations in Latvian, Polish, Sorbian, Czech and German.

Museum: Thirty Years of IKS

Some of the 30 years of work of the Institute for Cultural Infrastructure Saxony is documented at <https://kultur.org/>. To mark the institute's anniversary, the archives were opened and an exhibition was put together, supported by our student intern Jakob Bormann as curator.



Film Görlitz Rhythms – A Dance of Cultures

Premiere 24 May 2024, Benigna Görlitz

on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Institute for Cultural Infrastructure Saxony

Concept: Matthias Theodor Vogt, Görlitz

Camera and editing: Andreas Zgraja, Görlitz mail@andi.film

The film can be downloaded free of charge as Creative Commons ShareAlike CC BY-SA (1.0 2.0 2.5 3.0 4.0) and installed on your own website.

‘Without immigration, Görlitz is lost,’ said the then mayor Siegfried Deinege during research for the study ‘Arriving in the German world’ [<https://kultur.org/forschungen/merr/>]. However, immigration is a process in which preconceived assumptions – positive or negative stereotypes – play a decisive role in choosing a destination.

When Cameroonian mayor Roger Tafam promoted Görlitz in June 2023, he found that the city was so heavily disparaged as xenophobic on English-language social media that the parents of the young people he wanted to send to Görlitz for training vetoed the idea and none of them wanted to come.

The objective data tells a completely different story. No city in Saxony has a higher proportion of foreigners than Görlitz, not even Leipzig, and certainly not the state capital Dresden. Data from the Office for the Protection of the Constitution and the criminal investigation departments indicate peaceful coexistence (see Vogt 2023). If Görlitz entrepreneurs want to attract excellent workers in times of skilled labour shortages, they urgently need to counter the media's denigration with facts. The inglorious first-place finish of the Görlitz district in the European elections on 9 June 2024 has opened the door to further suspicions.

Roger Tafam suggested presenting parents with a film about the real Görlitz in English in YouTube format in order to respond to the allegations of ‘manifest xenophobia’ circulating on the internet. With the film **‘Görlitz Rhythms – A Dance of Cultures’** and in cooperation with the Municipal Hospital, the Maltese Hospital, the Zittau/Görlitz University and many civil society actors, the Institute implemented this idea together with Andi Zgraja, Görlitz (camera and editing).

The film is short and asks only one question: **What is so special about Görlitz?** The data is impressive and stimulates discussion.

To mark the institute's anniversary, we are making the film available to all Görlitz-based companies in two audio tracks: (a) with Leoš Janáček's 2nd String Quartet ‘Intimate Letters’ and (b) a brass recording. **Which music do you prefer? And which one do you think your contacts will like best?**

Film “Görlitz Rhythms – A Dance of Cultures”**Musik: Leoš Janáček (1854-1928): String**

[\[https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Goerlitz-Rhythms.IKS-30y.Janacek.2024-05-24_HD_neu_2.mp4\]](https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Goerlitz-Rhythms.IKS-30y.Janacek.2024-05-24_HD_neu_2.mp4)

Film “Görlitz Rhythms – A Dance of Cultures” Musik: Leoš Janáček (1854-1928): String Quartet No. 2, „Intimate Letters“, IV. Allegro – Andante – Adagio. With kind permission of Erica Brenner and Jessica Sherwood [6 December 2023) Alexi Kenney, violin 1 (Chamber Fest Cleveland Young Artist), David Bowlin, violin 2, Dimitri Murrath, viola, Julie Albers, cello Performed on June 24, 2016 Mixon Hall, Cleveland Institute of Music Cleveland, Ohio Chamber Fest Season 5 <http://chamberfestcleveland.com> Audio: Ian Dobie – Dobie Digital Productions, Editing: Erica Brenner <http://ericabrennerproductions.com>

Film “Görlitz Rhythms – A Dance of Cultures”**Musik: O Chanucah (Instrumental).****YouTube Audio-Bibliothek**

[\[https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Goerlitz-Rhythms.IKS-30y.Brass_2024-05-24_HD_neu_1.mp4?_=1\]](https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Goerlitz-Rhythms.IKS-30y.Brass_2024-05-24_HD_neu_1.mp4?_=1)

Görlitz Rhythms: A Dance of Cultures

Uraufführung 24. Mai 2024, Benigna Görlitz
aus Anlaß der Dreißigjahrfeier des
Instituts für kulturelle Infrastruktur Sachsen

Konzeption: Matthias Theodor Vogt, Görlitz
Film: Andreas Zgraja, Görlitz

Görlitz Rhythms: A Dance of Cultures

Uraufführung 24. Mai 2024, Benigna Görlitz
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Instituts für kulturelle Infrastruktur Sachsen

Konzeption: Matthias Theodor Vogt, Görlitz
Film: Andreas Zgraja, Görlitz

Wissenschaftliche Vorarbeiten unter anderem

- Vogt, Matthias Theodor; Fritzsche, Erik; Meißelbach, Christoph (2016): *Ankommen in der deutschen Lebenswelt. Migranten-Enkulturation und regionale Resilienz in der Einen Welt*. Geleitwort von Rita Süßmuth und Nachwort von Olaf Zimmermann. Berliner Wissenschafts-Verlag 2016, 526 S., ISBN: 978-3-8305-3716-8.
- Vogt, Matthias Theodor (2021d): *On the threshold to visibility and dignity. The long story of Polish migrants at Görlitz/ Zgorzelec*. In: Inocent-Mária V. OP Szaniszló (Ed.), *Invisible migrant workers and visible human rights*. Angelicum Press., Rome (pp. 169-187). [Hier die deutsche Fassung]
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- Vogt, Matthias Theodor (2022a): *The Corona Juventocide. Political immunosenescence due to distorted census weight at the expense of young age cohorts*. ISSN 2036-7821, Year 14, Volume 1/2022, pp. 33-94 amministrativamente. *Journal of Administrative Law (Classe A)*, Università degli Studi di Roma “Foro Italico” <http://www.amministrativamente.com/index.php/formez/issue/view/836>. [The German version in this volume]
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- Miguoué, Jean-Bertrand (2023): *Einführung*. In: Vogt, Matthias Theodor, Schreiter, Nathalie; Mandakh, Namuundari; Miguoué, Jean-Bertrand (2023): *Interkulturelles Erwartungsmanagement von Ankommenden, Stadtbevölkerung und Pflegeteams. Bericht über das Forschungsseminar zum Projekt Interkulturelles Jahr Pflege im Master Studiengang Kultur und Management*. Sommersemester 2023, Hochschule Zittau/Görlitz. [\[https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Vogt-Miguoue-Schreiter-Namundaari-Interkulturelles-Erwartungsmanagement-2023-10-30.pdf\]](https://kultur.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Vogt-Miguoue-Schreiter-Namundaari-Interkulturelles-Erwartungsmanagement-2023-10-30.pdf)

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Bafoussam (Cameroon)

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Studied political science, constitutional, social and economic history, sociology and education in Bonn. Doctorate in 1979. From 1980 to 1999, Poland expert at the Federal Institute for Eastern European and International Studies in Cologne. From 1999 to 2019, director of the German Poland Institute in Darmstadt. Since 2004, he has been an honorary professor at the Zittau/Görlitz University of Applied Sciences. He was a visiting professor at the Technical University of Darmstadt from 2012 to 2014. He is chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Institute for Cultural Infrastructure Saxony in Görlitz. Main areas of research: Polish contemporary history, politics and political system, Polish foreign and security policy, German-Polish relations since 1945. Numerous publications since 1978, including: *Die Polenpolitik der Bonner Republik von Adenauer bis Kohl 1949-1991* (The Polish Policy of the Bonn Republic from Adenauer to Kohl 1949-1991), 1998 (Polish edition 1997); with Marek Halub and Matthias Weber: *Mein Polen – meine Polen. Zugänge & Sichtweisen* (My Poland – My Poles: Approaches and Perspectives), 2016 (Polish edition 2016); *Denk mal an Polen. Eine deutsche Debatte* (Think of Poland: A German Debate), 2020 (Polish edition 2021). Numerous awards, including the International Bridge Prize of the European City of Görlitz/Zgorzelec 2023.

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Prof. Dr. habil. Pierpaolo Forte (Benevento)

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of the Donnarregina Foundation for Contemporary Arts, which oversees the Museo Madre in Naples. He has authored approximately seventy scientific publications and is a member of the Editorial Board for the journal *P.A. Persona e Amministrazione: Ricerche Giuridiche sull'Amministrazione e l'Economia*, as well as for Brill Research Perspectives in Art and Law. He is also part of the Scientific Committee for the series *Diritto Comparato dell'Arte* and is affiliated with CIRTAM, the Interdepartmental Research Center from Late Antiquity to Modern times at the Federico II University of Naples.

Dr. Annemarie Franke (Görlitz)

is a historian and has been working in cultural administration since 2023 as cultural secretary for the Upper Lusatia-Lower Silesia Cultural Area, based in Görlitz. 1990–1996: Studied modern and contemporary history (Eastern Europe), Slavic studies and political science in Bonn and Berlin (Master of Arts from Humboldt University in Berlin). Head of the Kreisau Foundation Memorial for European Understanding and member of the board between 2001 and 2012. 2015 Doctorate at the Historical Institute of the University of Wrocław on a topic related to German-Polish relations; 2013–2018 Cultural Officer for Silesia at the Silesian Museum in Görlitz; 2019–2023 Research project assistant at the European Network Remembrance and Solidarity in Warsaw.

Prof. Dr. Kazuo Fujino (Kobe) 藤野一夫

Professor Emeritus of Performing Arts, Cultural Policy, and Arts Management at the Graduate School of Intercultural Studies, Kobe University, and Professor Emeritus of the Hyogo Professional College of Arts and Tourism, Toooyka. His area of specialization is the relationship between art and society, mainly in the performing arts of Germany and Japan. He has published numerous books and articles on Richard Wagner. He was a researcher at the Collegium PONTES Görlitz-Zgorzelec-Zhořelec. He was a president of the Japan Association for Cultural Policy Research (2022-2025) and has been involved in many cultural policy initiatives on national and local level. Among his recent publications are *Cultural Policy of Basic Municipalities—Why Art is Needed in Cities* (2019) and *Lecture on Cultural Policy for Everyone—Creating Cultural Commons* (2022).

藤野一夫(神戸):神戸大学大学院国際文化学研究科名誉教授、兵庫県立芸術文化観光専門職大学副学長を経て名誉教授。専門は文化政策/アートマネジメント/音楽文化論/ドイツ思想史。特にリヒャルト・ワーグナーに関する数多くの著作を発表。コレギウム・ポンテスのシニアフェローも務めた。日本文化政策学会会長(2022-2025)を歴任し、国と地方自治体の数多くの文化審議会の座長、文化振興財団等の理事を務める。最近の著書に『基礎自治体の文化政策～まちにアートが必要なわけ』(2019)、『市民がつくる社会文化～ドイツの理念・運動・政策』(2021)、『みんなの文化政策講義～文化的コモンズをつくるために』(2022)などがある。

Prof. Dr. Stefan Garsztecki (Chemnitz)

Political scientist. From 1983 to 1989 he studied political science (major subject), modern and contemporary history and cultural geography (minor subjects) at the University of Bonn (Magister Artium in political science). From 1989 to 1994 he held a doctoral scholarship from the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. After completing his doctorate in political science in 1995 with Klaus Ziemer and Kurt Düwell at the University of Trier, he holds the Chair of Cultural and Area Studies at Chemnitz University of Technology since 2010.

Sebastian Gemkow (Dresden)

Minister of State for Science, Culture and Tourism of the Free State of Saxony since 2019. Studied law at the universities of Leipzig, Hamburg and Berlin, completed his legal training in Leipzig with the first and second state examinations. In 2007, he established himself as a lawyer in Leipzig, has been a member of the Saxon State Parliament since 2009 and President of the Parliamentary Forum for Central and Eastern Europe since 2010. In 2014, he became Honorary Consul of the Republic of Estonia for Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia. From 2014 to 2019, he was Saxon State Minister of Justice.

Prof. PhDr Miloš Havelka CSc (Prag)

Professor at the Faculty of Humanities at Charles University. His main areas of interest are questions of historical sociology of knowledge, theories of historiography and sociology, and the history of modern Czech thought. In 2002 and 2004/05, he was a visiting professor at the Institute for European Studies at Chemnitz University of Technology. In addition to numerous studies in domestic and foreign journals, he has published, among other things, the annotated two-volume anthology *Der Streit um die Bedeutung der tschechischen Geschichte* (The Dispute over the Meaning of Czech History), a collection of studies on historical sociology of knowledge *Ideen – Geschichte – Gesellschaft* (Ideas – History – Society), a collection of his polemical and critical texts *Geschichte und Kritik* (History and Criticism), and the anthology *Glaube, Kultur und Gesellschaft* (Faith, Culture, and Society). He is co-editor of the monograph series *Religious Cultures in Modern Europe*, published by Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.

Prof. Dr. Goro Christoph Kimura (Tokyo) 木村 護郎 クリストフ (東京)

graduated from Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo in 2002 with a dissertation entitled *Perspectives on human intervention for the preservation and revitalisation of minority languages*. He has been employed at Sophia University in Tokyo since 2004. He has been an associate professor since 2007 and a full professor at Sophia University since 2012 and is currently Dean of the Faculty of Foreign Studies. He has worked as a visiting professor at the Slavic-Eurasian Research Centre of Hokkaido University in Sapporo and as a visiting scholar at the Sorbian Institute (Bautzen), the European University Viadrina, the University of Leipzig and the Collegium PONTES Görlitz-Zgorzelec-Zhořelec. Kimura has been a board member and managing director of the Japan Society for the Study of Slavic Languages and Literatures since 2022.

2002年に東京の単一橋大学を卒業し、博士論文「少数言語の保存と再生における人間の介入に関する展望」で学位を取得しました。2004年から東京のソフィア大学に勤務し、2007年から准教授、2012年から教授を務め、現在は外国語学部の学部長です。北海道大学(札幌)のスラヴ・ユーラシア研究センターで客員教授、ソルビアン研究所(バウツェン)、ヨーロッパ大学ヴィアドリーナ、ライプツィヒ大学で客員研究員として勤務。彼は、ポンテス・ゴリツィー・ズゴジェレツ・ゾルジェレツ・カレッジウムの研究員でした。2022年から日本スラヴ語文学研究会の理事兼事務局長を務めている。

Prof. Dr. Peter Lah (Rom)

Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Pontifical Gregorian University. Ph.D. in Communication Studies, Northwestern University, 2004. 1992–1995 Theology studies (Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule St. Georgen, Frankfurt am Main, Germany). Professor (professore ordinario) at the Pontifical Gregorian University where, since 2011, he has been teaching courses in media studies and journalism at the Faculty of Social Sciences. In recent years his interest expanded to questions of media literacy and organizational communication. Between 2008 and 2011 he held teaching and administrative positions at the Faculty of Media in Ljubljana and at Faculty of applied social sciences in Nova Gorica, Slovenia. From 2004 to 2007 he was assistant professor at Saint Louis University, Missouri. 2006–2008 and 2012 Chair of the expert commission on pluralism in the media (Ministry of culture, Republic of Slovenia). Peter Lah is member of the Society of Jesus. Having completed the novitiate in 1988, he was ordained priest in 1995. Recent publications: Lah, Peter (2022): *Social media and communication for peace*. In: Turco, Danilo (ed.), *Ethics of coexistence or ethics of conflict* (S. 47–70). G&B Press. Lah, Peter (ed.) (2021): *Navigating hyperspace. A comparative analysis of priests' use of Facebook*. Resource Publications. Lah, Peter (2020): *The scandal of secrecy*. *Gregorianum* 101(2): 405–425..

Prof. Dr. Luca Lombardi (Rom)

Luca Lombardi is one of his country's most internationally renowned composers. After graduating from the German School in Rome with Dr. Joseph Vogt, he studied in Rome, Vienna, Cologne, Utrecht and Berlin (with B.A. Zimmermann, K. Stockhausen and P. Dessau, among others). He received his doctorate in German studies from the University of Rome. From 1973 to 1994, he was professor of composition at the conservatories in Pesaro and Milan, and has been a freelance composer ever since. He

has composed around 180 works, including five operas. A selection of his writings has been published under the title *Construction of Freedom* (Baden-Baden, 2006). He is a member of the Academy of Arts in Berlin and the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts (Munich). He lives alternately on Lake Albano (Rome) and in Tel Aviv. www.lucalombardi.net.

Dr. Stephan Meyer (Görlitz)

Studied industrial engineering and economics. In 2006, he completed his studies with a thesis on *Energy efficiency comparison in the manufacturing industry for Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic*. In 2007, he obtained the qualification of European Energy Manager (IHK Bildungszentrum). He received his doctorate in 2011 with a thesis on *Decision-making model for value chain-oriented emission reduction in transition countries*. He worked at SEC Energie-Contracting, at Nokia in Espoo, Finland, and was a guest lecturer at the German-Kazakh University in Almaty. He joined the Junge Union in 1998 and has been politically active ever since, currently as deputy CDU district chairman in the district of Görlitz. From 2009 to 2022, he was a member of the Saxon State Parliament, chairman of the Committee for Science and Higher Education, and parliamentary secretary of the CDU parliamentary group. Since September 2022 he is *Landrat* of the shire county Görlitz.

Dr. Beate Sibylle Pfeil (Freiburg)

Lawyer and independent researcher specialising in issues relating to national minorities in Europe. She has made a name for herself in her field through numerous lectures and seminal publications. From 1996 to 1999, she was a research assistant and from 1999 to 2016 deputy scientific director of the South Tyrolean Institute for Ethnic Groups in Bolzano, Italy. From 2017 to 2023, she was a Council of Europe expert responsible for the so-called Language Charter, and from 2017 to 2022, she was vice-chair of the European Centre for Minority Issues in Flensburg. Co-founder and co-editor of the *European Journal for Minority Issues*.

Prof. Dr. Oliver Reisner, (Tbilissi)

Since 2016, Oliver Reisner has been Jean Monnet Professor of European and Caucasian Studies at Ilia State University, teaching bachelor's, master's and doctoral students with a focus on European Studies and Caucasian Studies. In 2000, he received his doctorate from Georg August University in Göttingen, Germany, in Eastern European History, Slavic Studies, and Medieval and Modern History. From 2000 to 2003, he developed and coordinated a master's programme in Central Asia/Caucasus at the Institute for Central Asian Studies at Humboldt University in Berlin. From 2003 to 2005, he worked as a programme manager for human rights at World Vision Georgia, implementing a project on civil integration in the Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kvemo Kartli regions of Georgia. From 2005 to 2015, he was a project manager at the EU Delegation to Georgia, responsible for democratisation, minorities, education, youth, labour and social affairs. Main research topics: 1) Nation building and identity in the Caucasus in the 19th and 20th centuries; 2) Memory studies on dealing with the Soviet past in Georgia and the Caucasus; 3) History of Caucasian studies as a regional science; and 4) The role of religion in Georgia.

Dr.-Ing. Matthias Rößler (Dresden)

President of the Saxon State Parliament from 2009 to 2024. Graduate engineer in mechanical engineering, 1979 to 1985 research assistant at the University of Transport with teaching assignment (doctorate in 1985), 1985 to 1990 development engineer and head of a research team at the Lokomotivbau – Elektronische Werke Hennigsdorf combine. 1989 to 1990 Member of the GDR Executive Committee of the 'Demokratischer Aufbruch' (Democratic Awakening), member of the Dresden District Round Table and the Coordination Committee for the Re-establishment of the Free State of Saxony. 1990–2024 Member of the state parliament. 1994 to 2002 Minister of State for Culture, 2002 to November 2004 Minister of State for Science and the Arts.

Dr. Róża Różańska (Krakau)

Assistant Vice President in Quality Control and User Acceptance Testing at Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Holdings PLC (HSBC) and since 2003 Science Ambassador for the Women in

Tech Poland programme funded by the Ministry of Science, under the auspices of the Polish Academy of Sciences. She holds a PhD with distinction in Management and Quality Sciences (thesis nominated for the European Business History Association award) and studied at the Sorbonne in Paris as well as at the Brazilian science diplomacy school InnSciD. Róża Różańska is predominantly a historian, specialising in Intellectual Property Law, Technology Transfer, and Executive Management. She is also a harpsichordist and member of the British Harpsichord Society, UNESCO Global Tech Diplomacy Forum and The Internet Society. She has lectured widely across Europe, with over 50 conference talks, 15 scientific articles and 350 journalistic texts. She developed her expertise in executive decision-making and leadership through courses from the University of Michigan and Università Bocconi, among others. She previously worked in London, managed the Polish Research Centre in London, served on the National Council for PhD Students, and in 2025 represented Poland at the UN/ITU high-level event marking the 20th anniversary of the World Summit on the Information Society in Geneva.

Dipl.-Kffr. (FH) Una Sedleniece M.A. (Riga)

Deputy Director of the Latvian National Museum of Art (since 2015). She studied “Culture and Management” at the University of Applied Sciences Zittau/Görlitz and the Institute of Cultural Infrastructure Saxony (1997-2002) as well as international cultural relations (1992-1996) and museology at the Latvian Academy of Culture (2006-2010). Chairwoman of the Expert Committee for Cultural Heritage and member of the Board of Trustees of the State Cultural Capital Foundation (2023–2025). Head of the Baltic Summer School of Museology (since 2022) and Chair of the Board of the Baltic Society for the Promotion of Museology (since 2013). Head of the Latvian Museum Council (2020–2022). Worked in several Latvian museums, in the State Authority on Museums (2002–2005), in the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia (2005–2011), including as Deputy State Secretary for Cultural Policy (2006–2007).

Prof. Dr. Beat Siebenhaar (Leipzig)

Beat Siebenhaar is a linguist and dialectologist specialising in the study of linguistic varieties, language in the new media, prosody and dialectology. He studied German, philosophy and literary criticism at the University of Zurich from 1983 to 1991 and received his doctorate in German linguistics in 1999 with a dissertation entitled *Sprachvariation, Sprachwandel und Einstellung. Der Dialekt der Stadt Aarau in der Labilitätszone zwischen Zürcher und Berner Mundartraum*. He holds the Chair of German Linguistics (specialising in linguistics of varieties) at the University of Leipzig since 2008. Before that, he worked at the University of Zurich, the University of Bern and the University of Lausanne, among others. Siebenhaar has been Dean of the Faculty of Philology at the University of Leipzig since October 2016 till October 2025.

Prof. Dr. habil. David Simo (Yaounde)

Director of the German-African Science Centre in Yaoundé. Professor Emeritus of German Studies and Cultural Studies. Former Head of the German Department at the Faculty of Arts, Literature and Humanities at the University of Yaoundé 1 in Cameroon. Former President of the African Association of Germanists. Visiting Professor at German and French universities. Reimar Lüst Prize winner of the Humboldt Foundation. Former Humboldt Science Ambassador in Cameroon.

Prof. Dr. habil. Anton Sterbling (Fürth)

Co-founder of the dissident Romanian-German writers' group 'Aktionsgruppe Banat' (1972-1975). Studied social sciences at the University of Mannheim, doctorate and habilitation at the University of the Federal Armed Forces in Hamburg. Lecturer at the University of the Federal Armed Forces in Hamburg, the University of Heidelberg, the University of Bonn and, until 2019, at the Saxon Police University (FH). Numerous academic and literary publications. Latest publications: *Ungewissheiten heimwärts fliehender Krähen* (Uncertainties of crows fleeing home): Recent poems, short prose and stories. Ludwigsburg 2025; *Ist die Europäische Union eine Wertegemeinschaft?* (Is the European Union a community of values?) In: *Zeitschrift für Balkanologie*, vol. 60, no. 1, Wiesbaden 2024.

Prof. Dr. habil. Susanne Vill (Wien)

Professor emerita of Theatre Studies at the University of Bayreuth, lecturer in Theatre Studies and Musicology at the Universities of Vienna, Munich, Marburg, Erlangen, Zürich. Singer, director. Member and contributor of the International School of Theatre Anthropology (ISTA) and the European Music Theater Academy. Congress organizations and edition of conference reports: *Ausbildung für Musiktheater-Berufe* [Training for music theater professions] 1986 in Munich for the founding of the Bavarian Theater Academy; *Das Weib der Zukunft' - Frauengestalten und Frauenstimmen bei Wagner* [The Woman of the Future' – Female Characters and Female Voices in Wagner] 1997 in Bayreuth; *Richard Wagner und die Juden* [Richard Wagner and the Jews] in cooperation with Tel Aviv University 1998 in Bayreuth. Numerous publications on music, theater, opera, musicals, singing and media performances. Productions, theater studio with guest performances in Germany and abroad, concerts, radio recordings and television broadcasts. www.susanne-vill.at.

Prof. Dr. habil. Dr. h.c. Gregor Vogt-Spira (Marburg)

Professor emeritus of Classical Philology at the Philipps University Marburg. After completing his doctorate and his habilitation at the University of Freiburg i.Br., he was a Founding Professor of Classical Philology at the University of Greifswald from 1994 to 2006, where he helped to rebuild the Institute of Classical Studies. From 2008 to 2012, he was Secretary General of the German-Italian Centre Villa Vigoni on Lake Como (Italy), a European interface for the humanities and sciences, politics, economy and culture. In 2001, he founded (together with Jerker Blomqvist, Lund) the network Colloquium Balticum of the Baltic Sea countries. In 2020, he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Riga.

Prof. Dr. phil. Dr. habil. Prof. h.c. Dr. iur. h.c. Matthias Theodor Vogt (Görlitz)

Managing director of the Saxonian Institute for Cultural Infrastructures (<https://kultur.org/>), professor emeritus at the Zittau/Görlitz University, honorary professor at the University of Pécs and Doctor iuris honoris causa of Ilia University, Tbilisi. Master of Arts in Theatre Studies with a focus on modern German literature and philosophy in Munich, Paris and Aix-en-Provence. Doctorate in musicology. Habilitation in urban studies. Visiting professor at universities and music academies in Vienna, Prague, Wrocław, Krakow, Dresden, Boston, Yaounde, Cairo, Ulaanbaatar, Shanghai, Kobe and Toyooka, as well as at the Pontifical Gregorian University and the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas, both in Rome. Theatre experience at Moscow, Russe, Vienna, Salzburg, Venice, Milan, Rome, among others. Research interests: cultural policy and art policy, cultural history including medical history, minorities. Has taught at 60 universities in Europe, Africa, Asia and North America.

マティアス=テオドル・フォークト (ゲルリッツ)

は、ザクセン州文化インフラ研究所(<https://kultur.org/>)の所長兼経営責任者、ツィッタウ/ゲルリッツ高等専門学校名誉教授、ペッチ大学名誉教授、ティビリシのイリア大学名誉法学博士です。ミュンヘン、パリ、Aix-en-Provenceで演劇学、現代ドイツ文学、哲学の修士号を取得。音楽学の博士号を取得。都市計画学のハビリタツィオンを取得。ウィーン、プラハ、ヴロツワフ、クラクフ、ドレスデン、ボストン、ヤウンデ、カイロ、ウランバートル、上海、神戸、豊岡の大学および音楽大学、ならびにローマのグレゴリアナ大学とアンジェリカム大学で客員教授を歴任。演劇経験：モスクワ、ルッセ、ウィーン、ザルツブルク、ベネチア、ミラノ、ローマなど。研究分野：文化政策と芸術政策、文化史(医学史を含む)、少数民族。ヨーロッパ、アフリカ、アジア、北米の60の大学で教鞭を執る。

Dr. phil. Reiner Zimmermann (Dresden)

Former head of department, born in Neustadt/Orla, Thuringia. 1960–1965 Studied musicology, art history, and theater studies in Leipzig, editor at the music publishing house Editions Peters Leipzig/Dresden 1966–1985, music theater dramaturge at the Dresden Music Festival 1986–1991, 1991 to 2003 Head of the Art Department at the Saxon State Ministry of Science and the Arts. Publications include *Mehr Sein als Scheinen. Kulturpolitik in Sachsen nach 1990* (Donatus-Verlag, Niederjahna/Käbschütztal, 2022). Editor of musical works by Mendelssohn, Fauré, Debussy, Meyerbeer, and others; editor of the musical

writings of Camille Saint-Saens and the autobiography of Jules Massenet. Author of *Giacomo Meyerbeer - Biografie nach Dokumenten* (Giacomo Meyerbeer - Biography Based on Documents), 1991. Since 2009, editor-in-chief of the *Denkmäler der Tonkunst in Dresden* (Monuments of Music in Dresden). See also *Viele Stimmen. Festschrift für Reiner Zimmermann zum 75. Geburtstag am 27. November 2016*, published by his friends.



TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT
IN DER KULTURHAUPTSTADT EUROPAS
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To listen, to reflect, to act Cultural Policy against the Grain

What are the premises of today's cultural policy? What insights can the past, present and theory offer for a contemporary cultural policy? How can art counteract agoraphobia, digital isolation and populist temptations? How can local authorities give their citizens ample space to develop civil society solidarity 'for the good of the city. For only when the city is well will you be well.' (It should be noted that Jeremiah 29:7 addresses immigrants who are to become citizens in foreign Babylon. Does our cultural policy also achieve this?) Are the arts not precisely the place where we can first listen to the other before we think together and then act together?

It is the historical achievement of Matthias Theodor Vogt, in the Free State of Saxony, which was re-established in 1990, to not only conceive the Saxon Cultural Area Act between 1991 and 1995 in a unique process of analysis and dialogue with the state, municipal and civil society levels, but also to have it enshrined in law and, last but not least, to have it implemented with little friction. It was therefore only natural that, on the thirtieth anniversary of the law's entry into force, the cultural areas of Saxony invited Matthias Theodor Vogt's colleagues and students to a conference entitled 'Kulturpolitik gegen den Strich' (Cultural Policy Against the Grain). We are hereby presenting the results of this conference in a commemorative publication to mark his 65th birthday.

What can art do better and differently than the digital world? What political, structural, economic, and, last but not least, intellectual conditions are necessary for art to develop its own life for the benefit of humanity? The cover image shows Haus Klingewalde, Görlitz, home of the Institute for Cultural Infrastructure Saxony since 1998. The watercolour by Lynne Beal, Cologne, relates to a conversation with Matthias Theodor Vogt about the vanishing point in Alberti: *De pictura* | *De pictura* (1435 – 1436). According to Corinna Laude, in the *centricus punctus* of Alberti's intromission theory, 'the orthogonal vanishing lines, the depth lines of the representation, converge "quasi persino in infinito" (as it were out into infinity), it lies in infinity – and thus, according to contemporary understanding, in God'. Which "vanishing points" does today's post-secular society use?

How can political science in Chemnitz interact in a multidisciplinary, cross-continental manner, always with reference to human beings themselves, with cultural studies in Tokyo and linguistics in Leipzig, with legal studies in Naples and social sciences in Rome? This volume shows that cultural policy studies require a fact-based holistic approach and that this may be achieved by working together.

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liber amicorum for Matthias Theodor Vogt in honor of
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