

IKKM Annual Conference  
**BEING WITH...**  
Affinities—Attachments—Assemblages  
Weimar, April 18–20, 2013

Conventionally a place of assembly means a place where people come together and whose conditions predetermine the rules governing who can assemble there and what activities are possible. The IKKM annual conference will extend the capacity for assembly from people to objects and examine assemblages as synchronizations of people and objects. In this sense, it will focus on the actions and operations that constitute these forms of 'being with' in the first place. Consequently, places of assembly do not precede the activities that occur in them, but are rather produced through the linking and networking of operations and their synchronization. The traditional concept of place is thus inverted in favor of processes of 'becoming place' and bonding forces of assemblies. "Being with" studies networks of distributed actions and seeks to assess the potential of places of assembly as open ensembles of couplings, affinities, and attachments.

**Concept and Organization**

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The conference is open to the public. There is no registration fee, but advanced registration is required. Please contact the IKKM Conference Team, [ikkm-conference@uni-weimar.de](mailto:ikkm-conference@uni-weimar.de).

**Conference Venue**

Congress Centrum Neue Weimarhalle  
Seminargebäude  
UNESCO-Platz 1  
99423 Weimar



INTERNATIONALES KOLLEG  
FÜR KULTURTECHNIKFORSCHUNG UND MEDIENPHILOSOPHIE



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## Schedule

**Thursday, April 18, 2013****Welcome and Introduction**

Lorenz Engell and Bernhard Siegert (IKKM Weimar)

**Panel I Urban Agencies**Ludger Schwarte (Kunstakademie Düsseldorf)  
"The City: A Popular Assembly"George Chauncey (Yale University)  
"The Struggle over Queer Space in Postwar New York"Laura Frahm (Harvard University)  
"The Rules of Attraction: City Films,  
Urban Design, and Movement Studies"  
Respondent: Rosalind Morris (Columbia University)**Panel II Collectives and Possessions**Didier Debaise (Université Libre de Bruxelles)  
"A Universe of Possessions"Michael Cuntz (IKKM Weimar)  
"Singular and Proper Places:  
Possession, Reticulation, Collectives"  
Respondent: Astrid Deuber-Mankowsky  
(Ruhr-Universität Bochum)

Conference Reception

**Friday, April 19, 2013****Résumé 1**

Lorenz Engell (IKKM Weimar)

**Panel III Agency of Assemblages**Andrew Pickering (University of Exeter)  
"Engaging Emergence: From Cellular Automata  
to the Occupy Movement"Oleg Kharkhordin (European University at St. Petersburg)  
"An Infrastructure for Freedom?: Common Things and  
Res Publica in a Contemporary Russian City"  
Respondent: Mark B. Hansen (Duke University)**Panel IV Imaginary of Congregation**Beate Fricke (University of California, Berkeley)  
"Presence Through Absence: A Prehistory of Assemblage"Ulrich Meurer (Universität Wien)  
"Patchworking the Congress: On Dispersal Patterns  
in Matthew Brady's Political Imagery"Laura U. Marks (Simon Fraser University)  
"Cinematic Friendships: Intercessors, Collectives, and  
Collaborations in Arab Media Arts"Respondent: Christa Blümlinger  
(Université de Vincennes à Saint-Denis - Paris 8)**Saturday, April 20, 2013****Résumé 2**

Bernhard Siegert (IKKM Weimar)

**Panel V Being With... Commodities**Anna McCarthy (New York University)  
"The Fetishism of the Content Commodity and its Secrets"Sun-ha Hong (University of Pennsylvania)  
"Living with Commodities: Emergence and  
Materiality in Subject-Object Relations"Ben Robinson (Northwestern University)  
"Dissembling/Dis-assembling the Slave Ship: Representing  
Revolution in Herman Melville's Benito Cereno"  
Respondent: Martin Stingelin (Universität Dortmund)**Final Discussion**