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## Participants

**Prof. Dr. Rosetta S. Elkin**  
Pratt Institute New York

**Prof. Dr. Lorenz Engell**  
Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

**Mia Hallmans, M.A.**  
Universität Hamburg

**Prof. Dr. Achim Landwehr**  
Universität Konstanz

**Dr. Sulgi Lie**  
Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

**Dr. Laura Moisi**  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

**Dr. Toni Pape**  
Universiteit van Amsterdam

**Dr. Lucas Pohl**  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

**Dr. Dominik Schrey**  
Universität Siegen

**Dr. Kathrin Schuchmann**  
Universität zu Köln

**Prof. Dr. Susie Scott**  
University of Sussex

**Dr. Martin Siegler**  
Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

**Prof. Dr. Christiane Voss**  
Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

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GRAMA Lounge  
University Library  
Steubenstraße 6  
99423 Weimar

Concept and Organization: Dr. Martin Siegler  
In cooperation with: DFG-Graduiertenkolleg Medienanthropologie  
and Chair for Media Philosophy

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**Bauhaus-Universität  
Weimar**

**DFG** Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

**Körper  
Stiftung**



**NOTHING MATTERS**  
On Negative Objects, Spaces, and Relations

June 13–15 2024  
International Conference

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## Nothing Matters On Negative Objects, Spaces, and Relations

Nothing literally matters today. In the face of severe ecological and geopolitical crises, materiality itself is deeply affected by nothingness and negativity: landscapes are riddled with holes and voids due to massive resource extraction, mountains of waste pile up as negative matter, glaciers shrink and become monuments of loss. Thus, we are confronted with a multitude of material no-things, non-places, and non-relations. What relations do we maintain with the void, the absent, the forgotten and the vanished? Through which operations, acts, gestures, and practices is something turned into nothing? How does nothing materialize in various media milieus like film, literature, and games? And what kind of hidden potentialities may lie in material nothingness? By proposing a material, relational, and operative view on nothing, the conference ties in with recent media-philosophical concepts like *operative ontologies* and *anthropomediality* and brings them into dialogue with interdisciplinary discussions around the negative turn recently announced in contemporary social, geographical, and media theory.

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### Thursday June 13

1:30 p.m.	Arrival
2:00 p.m.	Welcome and Introduction
2:15 p.m.	Achim Landwehr (Universität Konstanz) <b>The Hole Story. How Otto von Guericke did get lost in time and what it tells us about the constitutive role of voids in modern European culture</b>
3:15 p.m.	Laura Moisi (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) <b>Designing Disappearance. Cultural and Affective Legacies of Disposal Architectures</b>
4:15 p.m.	Coffee Break
4:45 p.m.	Lorenz Engell (Bauhaus-Universität Weimar) <b>Nothing to See, Nothing to Do. Jarmusch, Duras, Jarman</b>
6:30 p.m.	Reception at Lichthauskino (Am Kirschberg 4)
8:00 p.m.	Film Screening <b>Homo Sapiens</b> (Nikolaus Geyrhalter, Ö 2016, 94 min.)

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### Friday June 14

10:00 a.m.	Susie Scott (University of Sussex) <b>Navigating Negative Identity. Doing, Being, and Feeling Nothing as Meaningful Social Action</b>
11:00 a.m.	Christiane Voss (Bauhaus-Universität Weimar) <b>Neither nor/as well as. Reflections on Neutral Phenomena</b>
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Break

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### Friday June 14

2:00 p.m.	Kathrin Schuchmann (Universität zu Köln) <b>Spatial Relations and the Virtual. Christoph Ransmayr's Literary Aesthetics of Absence</b>
3:00 p.m.	Mia Hallmanns (Universität Hamburg) <b>Landscape and an Aesthetics of the Void. Perspectives from Chinese Mountain-Water-Painting</b>
4:00 p.m.	Coffee Break
4:30 p.m.	Dominik Schrey (Universität Siegen) <b>Loss Landscapes. Mapping Timelines of Glacial Disappearance</b>
5:30 p.m.	Rosetta S. Elkin (Pratt Institute New York) <b>Landscapes of Retreat</b>
7:00 p.m.	Dinner at Residenz-Café (Grüner Markt 4)

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### Saturday June 15

10:00 a.m.	Sulgi Lie (Bauhaus-Universität Weimar) <b>The Negative Camera. On Samuel Beckett's "Film"</b>
11:00 a.m.	Toni Pape (Universitaet Amsterdam) <b>Nothing Happened. On Stealth Gameplay and the Becoming-imperceptible of Political Action</b>
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Break
12:30 p.m.	Martin Siegler (Bauhaus-Universität Weimar) <b>Hollowcene. Media Philosophy of Negative Spaces.</b>
1:30 p.m.	Lucas Pohl (Humboldt-Universität Berlin) <b>Nothing Will Have Taken Place. Negativity, Space, and the Apocalypse</b>
2:30 p.m.	Closing Discussion

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