



## A Series of Lectures and Discussions

Concept and co-ordination: Prof. Dr. Robin Curtis and Dr. Bettina Papenburg,  
Institute for Media and Cultural Studies, Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf,  
Summer Semester 2016

Haus der Universität, Schadowplatz 14, lectures begin at 4:30 p.m.

# AFFECT & THINGS THAT MOVE US: AUTHORITY!

**Affect** – a palpable intensity, the atmosphere in a room – is transmitted between people, below the threshold of conscious perception, manifesting as bodily tension and relaxation.

**Affect** is involuntary, non-conscious, contagious, and to a certain degree automatic. **Affect's** political potential has been investigated with renewed intensity from gender and queer studies perspectives in the previous fifteen years. Scholars working along these lines focus particularly on negative **affects** such as shame, fear, outrage, depression and failure, asking the question: how can negative **affects** be (made) productive? They consider the enabling moments produced by choosing not to turn away from these **affects**, critically investigate their societal causes, and explore the creative employment of these intensities. These foci of investigation speak to the broader question: how can **affects** facilitate a thinking process?

The lectures in this series address this question by exploring how **affects** are transmitted and negotiated in media cultures, how they enter scholarly practice and what is the relationship between scholarly **authority** and **affect**.

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### April 27

Losing My Cool: An Effective Research Strategy  
Prof. Dr. Laura U. Marks, Grant Strate University Professor,  
School for the Contemporary Arts, Simon Fraser University

### May 11

Popular Culture, Regulation, and the Coagulation  
of New Sexual Categories  
Dr. Laura Horak, Assistant Professor of Film Studies,  
Carleton University

### May 25

Stillness En Route: Photographs of Refugees  
Dr. Marta Zarzycka, Assistant Professor of Gender Studies  
and Photography Studies, Utrecht University

### June 8

Playing with Sex: Aesthetics of Intimacy in 1960s Swedish  
and Finnish New Wave Cinema  
Prof. Dr. Anu Koivunen, Professor of Cinema Studies,  
Stockholm University

### June 22

Trigger Warnings and Transformative Affect:  
(Auto)Ethnographical Encounters with Disturbing Media Content  
Dr. Katariina Kyrölä, University Lecturer, University of Turku

### July 6

Swooning at (the) Cinema:  
Affective Gestures across Time and Space in Todd Haynes's *Carol* (2016)  
Prof. Dr. Jennifer M. Barker, Associate Professor, Moving Image Studies  
Program, Georgia State University

### July 20

Cute 21st-Century Post-Fem-Bots  
Dr. Julia Leyda, Senior Fellow,  
Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam