
KISDtalks

Theories and Practice of Design

KISD

Köln International School
of Design

Fakultät für
Kulturwissenschaften

Technology
Arts Sciences
TH Köln

KISDtalks 1/2016

Theories and Practice of Design

The KISDtalks are a public lecture series on relevant perspectives of design. They give space for an open-minded and profound analysis of current and future issues of design, culture, society, technology, and different scientific disciplines. Topics are interdisciplinary, integrative, and provide internationality by domestic and international speakers.

The KISDtalks always take place on Tuesday at 5:30 pm in the conference room 11. The 60-90 minutes-long presentations with "Q&A" are a public event and free of charge.

Theorien und Praxis des Designs

Die KISDtalks sind eine öffentliche Veranstaltungsreihe zu relevanten Positionen und Arbeitsfeldern des Designs. Die KISDtalks verstehen sich als ein offenes Format, das Raum für aktuelle Fragestellungen im Design bietet. Die Themen sind interdisziplinär, bündeln integrativ Inhalte verschiedener gestalterischer und wissenschaftlicher Bereiche und schaffen Internationalität durch Vortragende und Zuhörende aus aller Welt.

Die KISDtalks finden immer dienstags um 17.30 Uhr im Konferenzraum 11 statt. Die 60- bis 90-minütigen Vorträge und Diskussionen sind öffentlich und kostenfrei.

Carolin Höfler, Andreas Wrede & KISDtalks-Team

History Leaks into Your Future

Lauren Alexander & Ghalia Elsrakbi

Designers, Foundland Collective,
Amsterdam & Cairo

April 12, 2016

5:30 pm



What does historical imagery with its artifacts, documents, and narratives tell us about our past, present, and future? Lauren Alexander and Ghalia Elsrakbi of Foundland design and research collective, Cairo and Amsterdam, will highlight some of their most recent projects. In their talk, they will give an insight into their working technique, will analyze and contextualize stories and images from the past, and will show their re-applications, translations, and correlations. A journey into the analysis and speculation of what might be or might have been from both a Western and non-Western perspective towards art and design, society and culture.

www.foundland.info

The talk will be held in English language.

Viral Ecologies

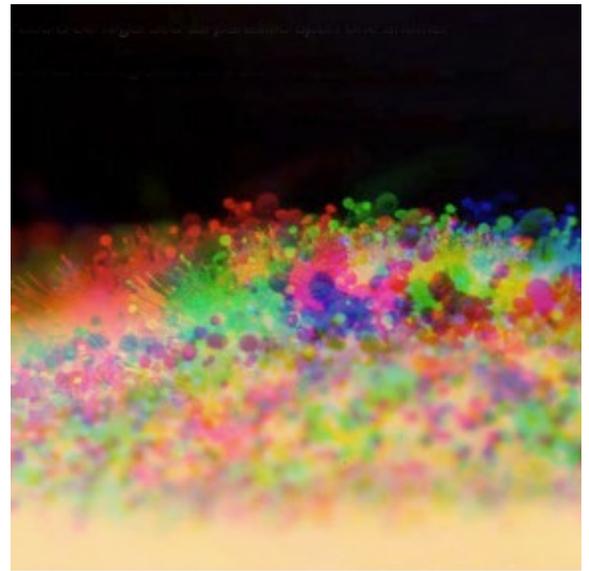
**The Parasite, the Social Contagion
and the Internet**

Kuai Shen

Media Artist, Researcher & Designer of
Biomimetic Environments, Cologne

April 19, 2016

5:30 pm



Self-reproduction and deceit characterize both the mimic in natural systems and the virus in computer systems. Technology is made by humans for humans. But this technology, in some of its manifestations, resembles behaviors of other living species – including natural processes of decomposition, infection, and parasitism. Kuai Shen's talk "Viral Ecologies" is inspired by Gabriel Tarde's theory of imitation and social contagion. It will discuss the relationship between human-made technology and biology. Who controls the host, who is good in camouflage and mimicry, and who eventually fails or wins in tech(no)-ecology?

www.kuaishen.tv

The talk will be held in English language.

Chinese Whispers

Christian Schäfer

Graphic Designer, DJ, Institute for Music and Media, RSH Düsseldorf

April 26, 2016

5:30 pm



“Stille Post” in German, “Teléfono Roto” in Spanish or “Chinese Whispers” in English: inaccurately transmitted content, the information of messages partly lost during reception, transfer, and knowledge sharing. In his talk, Christian Schäfer, a German designer, lecturer, and musician, will elaborate on conclusions and maybe misleading interpretations of given content, signs, and language. From the original message to its recipient: do all components arrive, is some information hidden and lost, what alterations do occur? Schäfer will shed light on this matter by the analysis of graphics and sound – presenting some results of his annual workshop at the Institute for Music and Media, RSH Düsseldorf.

www.graphicandsound.com

The talk will be held in English language.

Affordances, Use and Design

Dr. Alexander Koutamanis

Architect, Associate Professor of Computational Design, TU Delft

May 17, 2016

5:30 pm



How can we draw a clear distinction between intended and actual purpose and use of an object? Since it is sometimes obvious that every artifact leads a double life: one stemming from the vision of a designer’s mind, the other in the hands of its real users. Hence, is it design following usage or usage following design? Alexander Koutamanis, Associate Professor of Computational Design at TU Delft, will discuss concepts of design processes, will show how both the designer and the customer can bridge the gap of mutual (mis-)understanding, and will give valuable information on requirements, intentions, and patterns of design and communication.

www.bk.tudelft.nl

The talk will be held in English language.

What Surrounds Us?

Speculating on Our Designed Ambiance

Patricia Hepp

Interdisciplinary Designer,
Clothing Design Researcher, Cologne

May 24, 2016

5:30 pm



Clothing is considered to represent a secondary skin in a model of layered enclosures for the body. Our designed ambiance, our surrounding objects, and the built spaces form further surfaces: facades of the personality that serve as content information boards and platform for visual communication. This concept leads to an analogy of fashion, interior design and architecture and their respective functions as shelter for body and psyche. In her talk, the interdisciplinary designer Patricia Hepp will highlight these approaches by introducing projects of students, artists, and designers that describe shared design strategies between the disciplines.

www.patriciahepp.de

The talk will be held in English language.

A New Kind of Design

Understanding Complexity and Computational Irreducibility in Design

J. Paul Neeley

Designer, Co-founder of "Yossarian –
Creative Search Engine", London

May 31, 2016

5:30 pm



Is design detached from reality? Is the process of designing – actually oriented towards finding resolutions – the starting point for even more problems? According to London-based service designer J. Paul Neeley, we have sometimes failed to engage with the complex realities of our interconnected world. In our design of anything, we must consider that changes to any part of the system can have dramatic and unforeseen consequences. Thus, what would it look like if we attempted to design with everything in mind? What if we tried to avoid errors of isolation, scale, and scope? The talk explores implications of computational irreducibility and complexity for design and suggests new possible directions.

www.jpaulneeley.com

The talk will be held in English language.

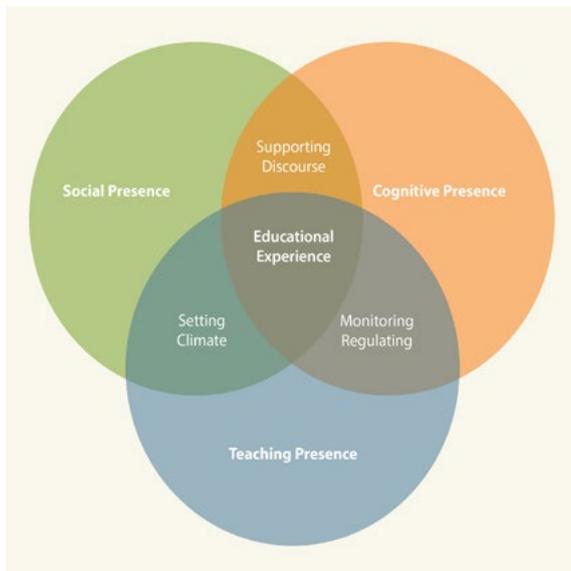
Forschung über projektbasiertes Lernen

Dr. Elisabeth Kaliva

Informatikerin, wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin an der KISD, TH Köln

7. Juni 2016

17.30 Uhr



Seit fast neun Jahren werden an der KISD die digitalen „KISDspaces“ in der Lehre eingesetzt. Elisabeth Kaliva untersucht in ihrer Dissertation den Einsatz dieser Lehr-, Lern- und Kommunikationsplattform in Projekten. Dabei stehen folgende Fragen im Fokus der Untersuchung: Wie können die KISDspaces in den jeweiligen Projektphasen sinnvoll eingesetzt werden? Wie können die aktive, gleichberechtigte Beteiligung aller Projektteilnehmer gewährleistet und die soziale Interaktion aufrechterhalten werden? Wie kann die Entstehung einer „Community of Inquiry“ mittels KISDspaces unterstützt und begleitet werden? Diesen Fragen wurde qualitativ, durch Interviews mit Lehrenden und Studierenden, aber auch quantitativ, durch den Einsatz eines Fragebogens, nachgegangen.

www.kisd.de

Der Vortrag wird in deutscher Sprache gehalten.

Designing Interactive Learning Environments

Michael Wolf

Designer and Founder of “Formula D interactive”, Cape Town

June 14, 2016

5:30 pm



Opportunities of interactive learning environments reach beyond online platforms for learning content or interactive whiteboards. Whereas learning institutions like schools and colleges are rather slow practitioners of interactive technology, science centers and museums have shown to be more open. Certain new media technologies, formats, and strategies have been identified as pertinent to learning such as interactive simulations, virtual and augmented reality, digital games and multisensory user interfaces. Showing recent examples of projects, Michael Wolf from Cape Town-based design studio “Formula D interactive” will in his talk highlight key considerations and challenges for the design of interactive learning environments.

www.formula-d.com

The talk will be held in English language.

Embrace Sustainable Future, Forego Tangible Design?

Benny Ding Leong

Industrial Designer, Asian Lifestyle Design Lab, PolyU, Hong Kong

June 21, 2016

5:30 pm



Since the turn of the century, society faces three major developments and transitions: towards digitized connectivity, service economy, and sustainable culture. Their convergence results in a post-industrial economy which celebrates values created by intangible information and services. These developments not only dramatically change the practice of business and industry globally and locally, but also bring up a series of questions about the future development of industrial design. Has industrial design become outdated? In his talk, Benny Ding Leong will reflect on the present and future purpose of industrial design.

www.sd.polyu.edu.hk

The talk will be held in English language.

The Artificial Landscape of Vietnam

Nguyen The Son

Artist, Photographer, Vietnam University of Fine Arts, Hanoi

June 28, 2016

5:30 pm



In his talk, Vietnamese artist Nguyen The Son will refer to many of his projects and workshops dealing with changes in art and design, landscapes and urban environments. What is art and design, how are they practiced, how can they be designed, deconstructed and reconstructed? The Hanoi-based multi-media artist will particularly elaborate on the topic of photography and ways of thinking beyond the boundaries of standard two-dimensional photography. Furthermore, Nguyen The Son will give in his talk an overview of his multidisciplinary art practices that embrace silk painting, video art, photography, and photo installation.

www.nguyentheson.com

The talk will be held in English language.

Branding Customer Experience

Arne Schmidt

Corporate Designer, Senior Designer at
"Interbrand Germany", Cologne

July 05, 2016

5:30 pm



Branding identity is one of the most complex and challenging tasks a company can face. A holistic view on the topic is mandatory in order to do it properly and in a sustainable way from both a business and strategic perspective. A brand's identity can not simply be planned and implemented. It only comes alive through its stakeholders. It evolves in the hearts of the employees and the customers. Once seeded, branding has the power to change the world. This is why it is crucial to understand a brand's customers and their demands and desires on the entire customer journey. Because this is where the identity starts to unfold with an experience that matches the customers' expectations or even better exceeds them.

www.interbrand.com

The talk will be held in English language.

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