

Conference

Lab

Data ↔ Worlds

**Final Conference
of the Second
Funding Phase
Schaufler Lab
@TU Dresden**

**Keynotes by Louise Amoore,
Manuela Naveau, and Joanna Zylinska**

**28.–30.9.
2026**

**TUD Dresden
University
of Technology,
Görges-Bau**

Monday

11:30 **Registration and
Welcome Snacks**

12:30 **Opening Remarks**

13:00 **Keynote 1**

[Lecture] **Joanna Zylinska:
From Model Collapse to
System Failure: Remaking
Data for Better Worlds**
**Moderation:
Jasmin Höning**

14:30 **Coffee Break**

15:00 **Panel 1: Data Politics:
Data Fascism?**

**[Talk
Discussion]** **Katrin Köppert:
“Suicidal Fascism.”
Cybernetics and Racial Death**
**Moderation:
Nelly Saibel**

16:30 **Break**

17:00 **Keynote 2**

[Lecture] **Louise Amoore (online):
Zero Shot World: On the Political
Logics of Generative AI**
**Moderation:
Nelly Saibel**

Monday

28.09.2026

Keynote 1

[Lecture] Joanna Zylinska

From Model Collapse to System Failure: Remaking Data for Better Worlds

Moderation: Jasmin Höning

Collapse has become one of the defining concepts through which the present is being narrated today. We encounter it in relation to climate systems, political institutions, economic infrastructures, AI models, social worlds and, increasingly, epistemic authority itself. Yet the question I want to pose in this talk is not simply whether collapse is really happening or how far advanced it might be. It is rather what kind of concept collapse has become: what kinds of affects it mobilises, what kinds of subjects it presupposes and what kinds of worlds it still allows us to imagine. Starting from the recent technical discourse on model collapse in generative AI, where recursively trained systems begin to lose low-probability variation within its data and produce increasingly generic outputs, I will ask how this concept might be rethought within the arts, humanities and social sciences. Model collapse will be positioned in this argument as a diagram of cultural and political narrowing, a condition in which systems feed on what they have already processed, optimised and made probable. Yet it will also be seen as an opening within the all-too-rigid models of understanding human intelligence and subjectivity. Moving between aesthetics and ethics, the talk will consider what it might mean to move from diagnosing model collapse within machine-learning systems to recognising broader forms of system failure within our real-world ecologies. We will also interrogate how data—and data worlds, with all their material infrastructures—might be remade otherwise, through practices of critical attention and creative recomposition. The wager is that collapse, if thought carefully, may open a space for imagining better worlds beyond the exhausted logics of averaging and optimisation.

The talk will include a screening of my 15-minute film */collapse*, which approaches collapse as a mediated cultural condition that exceeds the tropes of an apocalyptic event.

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Panel 1

Data Politics: Data Fascism?

Moderation: Nelly Saibel

In academic discourses on AI, politics, and visual regimes, the term “fascism” is frequently used to describe the ongoing shift in Western democracies towards authoritarian modes of politics, fascist imagery, and extractive digital economies. In this panel, we address these discourses together with our panelist Katrin Köppert, exploring the question of whether and to what extent we can observe fascist tendencies in data-worlds. Beyond anti-democratic world-making, we will also explore the possibilities offered by democratic, queer, feminist, and decolonial approaches to reclaiming and redesigning global media infrastructures.

【 Talk 】 **Katrin Köppert**

“Suicidal Fascism.”

Cybernetics and Racial Death

AI, according to the central thesis of this lecture, is the “desire machine” of the new fascist body (Herzog 2025). As such a machine, it constitutes a preemptive attack on the lives of those who do not conform to this body. The lecture focuses on suicides—primarily among racialized youth—resulting from chatbot interactions. I examine this form of “racial death” as the materialization of an AI that technologically conjures up the deaths of those whom the new fascist body does not wish to include. Using AI chatbots and suicidality as examples, I explore the extent to which algorithms reject all aspects of racialized life (McKittrick 2020) and how fascism finds in them the ideal matrix.

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Keynote 2

[Lecture] Louise Amoore (online)

Zero Shot World: On the Political Logics of Generative AI

Moderation: Nelly Saibel

The technologies of generative AI are increasingly penetrating the social and political world. Not merely in the direct sense that AI models are being deployed to govern difficult problems—from decisions on the battlefield to responses to pandemic—but because generative AI is shaping and delimiting the politics of what can be known and actioned in the world. The machine learning algorithm is leaving the trace of its technical worldview in the political spaces of people, communities, objects, and scenes. This is a new and distinctive political logic: it remodels and aligns social and political relationships to make them fit the abstractions of machine learning models. The latent spaces and embedding spaces of AI are becoming present in the actual lived spaces of our world. In this zero-shot world, the machine's capacity to act on unencountered data and tasks structures human societies of experimental probability, foreclosing the spaces of social organisation and resistance.

Tuesday

09:30**Panel 2:
Datafied Decision Making****【 Talk 】****Sophia Jaworski:
The Foil of Calibration:
VOCs and the Datafied Politics
of Environmental Pollution
Monitoring****【 Talk 】****Sabrina Pölle: Enhanced
Access to Justice or Encoded
Inequality? Datafied Decision-
Making in Criminal Law****【 Talk 】****Avinash Sharma:
What the Model Cannot Hold:
Datafied Decision-Making in
the Western Himalaya****Moderation: Alexandra Lorch****11:00****Coffee Break****11:30****Panel 3: Data Hermeneutics****【 Talk 】****Cat Ashton: Stirring Stories
and Alternative Facts****【 Talk 】****Ilona Nord: Hermeneutical and
Methodological Reflections
on Digital Humanities in
Religious Education****【 Talk 】****Daria Onitiu: The Fallacy of
“Efficiency” Reporting on AI
sustainability under the EU re-
cast Energy Efficiency Directive****Moderation:
Andrew Erickson**

Program **29.09.2026**

13:00 **Lunch Break**

14:30 **Panel 4: Data Beliefs**

【 **Talk** 】 **Alexandra Gilliams (online):
The “Myth of the Machine”
in AI Art**

【 **Talk** 】 **Frida Mannerfelt:
Like Chalk and Cheese?—
Integrating AI literacy and
theological literacy in religious
practice**

【 **Talk** 】 **Konstanze Möller-Jansen:
The Politics of AI

Moderation:
Marie Briese**

16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:30 **Keynote 3**

【 **Lecture** 】 **Manuela Naveau:
UNBEHAGEN: When Critical
Data Touches the Shadow of
the Invisible**

**Moderation:
Özgün Eylül İşcen**

Program 29.09.2026

**19:00 Exhibition Opening:
“The Ma\$\$ of Money”
Schaufler Residency@
TU Dresden 2026 by
Quadrature (Juliane Götz &
Sebastian Neitsch)**

**Words of Welcome:
Prof. Ursula M. Staudinger,
Rector, TUD;
Ingo Smit, Chairman,
Management Board, THE
SCHAUFLEF FOUNDATION;
Kirsten Vincenz,
Spokesperson, Schaufler Lab
@TU Dresden | Director,
Office for Academic Heritage,
TUD**

**Introduction:
Gwendolin Kremer and
Pauline Hohn,
Schaufler Residency@
TU Dresden | Office for
Academic Heritage, TUD**

Panel 2

Datified Decision Making

Moderation: Alexandra Lorch

This panel is a showcase for an upcoming volume, “Decision-Making in the Age of Datification: Interdisciplinary Reflections and Critical Intervention”, edited by the Schaufler Lab members Johanna Grosche, Alexandra Lorch, and Nelly Saibel. The edited volume is a reflection on how datification is reshaping decision-making in legal, political, and environmental domains. Sophia Jaworski, Sabrina Pölle, and Avinash Sharma are contributors of the volume and they will share insights into their work as well as into collaborative research practices across disciplines.

Talk Sophia Jaworski

The Foil of Calibration: VOCs and the Datified Politics of Environmental Pollution Monitoring

This talk discusses how the limits of calibration in personal air-pollution monitoring are more than simply technical. Rather, they reveal the epistemic conditions through which environmental data are produced and the chemical realities that exceed them. Focusing on volatile organic compounds (VOCs), personal air monitors, and PurpleAir wildfire monitoring infrastructures, I discuss how sensor design, calibration, quantitative metrics, and pollutant categories determine what becomes perceptible or actionable, and for whom. I develop the idea of the “foil of calibration” to describe how monitoring can be continually undone by the very practices that render it legible, overwriting exposure traces through averaging, scaling, correction equations, and sensory exclusion. Bringing environmental data justice into conversation with Bachelard’s “metachemistry,” I argue for more reflexive, inclusive, preventative, and precautionary approaches to environmental evidence that treat embodied knowledge, chemical transformation, and atmospheric realities that exceed calibration as evidence.

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Talk

Sabrina Pölle

Enhanced Access to Justice or Encoded Inequality? Datafied Decision-Making in Criminal Law

Using datafied tools in criminal decision-making could improve access to justice by providing increased objectivity and consistency alongside reduced cost barriers. However, these tools are not trained using neutral datasets but rather on historically accumulated judgments, containing decades of disproportional socio-economic discriminatory patterns. The presentation addresses this tension between the promise of enhanced access to justice and the fact that inherited biases undermine the very fairness that these tools aim to deliver. Drawing on critical legal theory, criminological perspectives, the European regulatory framework, and case studies of the real-time use of datafied decision-making tools in criminal law, the presentation offers grounds for reflecting on the challenges posed by these tools.



Talk

Avinash Sharma

What the Model Cannot Hold: Datafied Decision-Making in the Western Himalaya

Climate models are no longer only describing the world. They are being used to govern it. They plan energy systems, allocate water, and calculate snowmelt and glacial loss at a time when facts are uncertain, values are in dispute and decisions are urgent. Anything that informs a decision like this has to be parsed through the model, in a form the model can take, as a variable, a value, a time series. This is not a neutral requirement. It decides what counts, and it does so before any of the value choices modellers make. I have spent time with modelling teams and have also been recording what people know about snow and water in Lahaul, in the Western Himalaya. In this talk I bring three of those things to the model. A local distinction between incoming and outgoing snow gets through, but the question behind it does not. The Mu words for kinds of snowfall get through only in part. The words for how the snow looks

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survive, the words that tell you what is coming next do not. The Nyerjhum fall at Koksar, glacier melt entering a river now being planned for new hydropower, gets through as runoff and nothing else. What is missing is not data. It is form. I will argue that these ways of knowing are not waiting to be included in a model. They are already being used to decide.

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Panel 3

Data Hermeneutics

Moderation: Andrew Erickson

From legal precedent to sacred texts, from narrative structure to algorithmic logic, interpretation is the engine of authority. Yet in the age of AI and datafication, this interpretive work is often outsourced to opaque systems that claim neutrality while embedding values, biases, and worldviews. Drawing on theology, literary and cultural studies, and law, panelists show how attention to interpretation, context, and tradition enriches data practices by exposing their underlying assumptions, ethical stakes, and interpretive limits. The future of data is not only technical but also *interpretive*.

【 Talk 】 Cat Ashton

Stirring Stories and Alternative Facts

Despite its construction of itself as anti-modern, evangelicalism has always made use of the latest technology to spread its message, and storytelling is a technology at which it excels. American conservative evangelicalism cultivates separateness from the modern world, but since the second half of the twentieth century, that separateness has been increasingly vocal and politically engaged, such that the alternative narratives that it imposes on events have become part of mainstream American discourse. Through a mix of Christian fiction and real-life examples of American conservative discourse, I will show that through its reflexive rejection of certain kinds of expertise, its insistence on the unchanging nature of truth, its framing of persecution as heroic, and its insistence on binary thinking, the conservative evangelical program of truth can be mobilized to not only spread misinformation, but also inoculate those who fully embrace it against correct information.

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Talk

Ilona Nord

Hermeneutical and Methodological Reflections on Digital Humanities in Religious Education

This talk first discusses what changes artificial intelligence is bringing to scholarly research in religious education, and what challenges this entails for researchers. Second, using several examples of AI use in research in the field, it illustrates how research topics and the operationalization of research projects are changing.



Talk

Daria Onitiu

The Fallacy of “Efficiency” Reporting on AI sustainability under the EU recast Energy Efficiency Directive

As the EU races to substantially increase its data centre infrastructure, examining how the exponential growth of AI and Large Generative models could be made sustainable exposes a fundamental conflict: technologies that initially reduce electricity and water use ultimately require further upscaling to large, hyperscale data centres to accommodate (larger) AI workloads. This presents an environmental fallacy when hyperscale operators report positive energy efficiencies under the EU recast Energy Efficiency Directive whilst masking the actual impact at the expense of local communities' energy and water access. Building on this, this talk presents a new data centre efficiency framework focusing on the reporting of Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) and Water Usage Effectiveness (WUE) scores. This framework takes into account of how efficiency improvements showcase diminishing returns, and how PUE and WUE metrics emphasise electricity-water trade-offs due to increased scaling in AI workloads. Formalising these aspects is crucial to optimise efficiency not for Big Tech's own economic agenda, but to cultivate an ecosystem that accounts for the true ecological cost in data centre efficiency.

Panel 4

Data Beliefs

Moderation: Marie Brieze

In an age of algorithmic governance, predictive analytics, and AI-driven futures, data have become more than tools; they are invested with belief. The panel examines this phenomenon by asking: How do data become epistemic, moral, and political authorities? What ideologies, visions of the future, and power structures are embedded in the stories we tell about data? And how might we challenge, deconstruct, or even creatively rework these beliefs, especially when mystification itself may function as a form of resistance?

Talk **Alexandra Gilliams (online)**

The “Myth of the Machine” in AI Art

Drawing on critiques of techno-optimist ideologies identified by scholars as the TESCREAL bundle, this paper situates contemporary AI discourse within a longer history of what Lewis Mumford termed the “myth of the machine” in the post-industrial age, or the belief in unrestrained technological progress as a quasi-religious path toward salvation and efficiency. Positioned between critique and complicity, many AI artworks deploy phantasmagoric aesthetics that obscure the material infrastructures of machine learning while reinforcing myths of technological transcendence and inevitability. These visual regimes often align with corporate “AI hype,” in which technocapitalist ideas such as Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) drive investment, policy, and public imagination despite their uncertain technical basis. The paper analyzes how certain artists amplify rather than interrogate these narratives through spectacular installations that stage AI as a mystical or divine force. As a case study, it examines Memo Akten’s *Boundaries* (2024), installed in a Venetian church during the Biennale, where AI-generated visuals transformed the altar into a site of techno-spiritual contemplation. Through its immersive

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dispositif, the work evokes transcendence while obscuring the technical and ideological systems underpinning it. Audience's emotional responses suggest how such works can cultivate passive, devotional modes of spectatorship and normalize techno-utopian imaginaries.

[Talk]

Frida Mannerfelt

Like Chalk and Cheese?—Integrating AI literacy and theological literacy in religious practice

As Beth Singler points out in her book *Religion and Artificial Intelligence* (2024), narratives of what AI is and what AI can do are crucial for how religious practitioners choose to reject, adapt, or adopt AI in their religious practice. But what happens to the practices if these narratives—or data beliefs—are challenged and demystified? What happens when religious professionals' AI literacy, i.e., their ability to use, understand, and critically reflect on AI, increases and integrates with their domain-specific skills (theological text interpretation and production)? The presentation offers insights into these questions based on the preliminary results from a research project on domain-specific AI literacy among religious professionals in the Uniting Church in Sweden.

[Talk]

Konstanze Möller-Jansen

The Politics of AI

AI systems have become indispensable tools, helping us to filter through the vast amounts of choices available on data-banks and search engines, or ensuring that we only see content and ads that match our interests as determined by algorithms. However, these systems are not merely neutral tools; they also provoke processes of social ordering. In this talk, I will examine the idea that AI systems “have politics” and should be understood as a form of social order (Winner 1980). This means that these technologies are shaped not only by the values of those who develop them, but that they themselves perpetuate certain embedded values and beliefs. After briefly introducing the general notion of the “politics of artefacts”, I will demonstrate which values and beliefs underlie AI systems. These include the logic of unambiguousness, the logic of calculability, and the logic of prediction and pre-emption.

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Keynote 3

Lecture Manuela Naveau

UNBEHAGEN: When Critical Data Touches the Shadow of the Invisible

Moderation: Özgün Eylül İşcen

Bringing together perspectives from academia, curatorial practice, and art-based research, the keynote explores how artistic research moves beyond the mere visualization of data to foster a critical engagement with the systems, imaginaries, and power structures that shape our world. Her perspective opens up new ways of approaching data—not merely as a technological resource, but as a cultural, political, and aesthetic condition of our contemporary reality. Drawing on approaches from media art, digital art, and critical data studies, the focus extends to data and data-processing systems as fields of artistic and interdisciplinary inquiry. Particular attention is given to discrimination- and disadvantage-critical perspectives and to the ways in which artistic research can make underlying structures and relations perceptible.

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Exhibition Opening

The Ma\$\$ of Money

Schaufler Residency@TU Dresden 2026 by Quadrature (Juliane Götz & Sebastian Neitsch)

With “The Mass of Money”, artist duo Quadrature (Juliane Götz & Sebastian Neitsch), Artists-in-Residence at Schaufler Lab@TU Dresden, presents the results of their six-month artistic research at TUD Dresden University of Technology—developed in exchange with research partners from economics, mathematics, computer science and the Schaufler Kolleg@TU Dresden.

The exhibition explores the extreme concentration of wealth and economic processes that largely escape direct perception. Drawing on data on capital, markets and global wealth, Quadrature develop visual and spatial translations of abstract scales and relations. Economics meets astrophysics: in “Cosmology of Capital”, capital accumulation is modelled as a gravitational phenomenon using N-body simulations. Celestial bodies, galaxies and black holes become images of accumulation, attraction and the self-reinforcing dynamics of wealth. Further works examine the invisible mechanisms of the market and the measurement of individual fortunes—asking how economic power can be represented at all.

The Schaufler Residency@TU Dresden 2026 and the exhibition were curated by Gwendolin Kremer and Pauline Hohn.

Wednesday

09:00

Panel 5: Data Ecologies

【 Talk 】

Kat Austen: THIRST: Artificial intelligence, Agency and the Watery Bodies of Data Centres

【 Talk 】

Paulan Korenhof: Your Space or Mine? The Spatial Politics of Environmental Digital Twins

Moderation: Johanna Grosche

10:30

Coffee Break

11:00

Panel 6: Data Epistemologies

【 Talk 】

Patricia Reed: Data Sensitivity, Modeling Worlds, and World Models

【 Talk 】

Ludovico Rella: A Full Stack Approach to Data Epistemologies

Moderation: Niklas Egberts

12:30

Break

12:45

Closing Plenary

【 Discussion 】

Orit Halpern, Manuela Naveau and Joanna Zylinska

Moderation: Özgün Eylül İşcen

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Panel 5

Data Ecologies

Moderation: Johanna Grosche

This panel explores the material and environmental dimensions of data, asking how data, technologies, infrastructures, and ecological worlds are deeply interconnected. Bringing together artistic, philosophical, and ecological perspectives, Kat Austen and Paulan Korenhof will reflect on how data shapes our relationship with the environment, and how we might rethink these entanglements.

Talk Kat Austen

THIRST: Artificial intelligence, Agency and the Watery Bodies of Data Centres

Reflecting on the research behind immersive intermedia artwork *THIRST/For Knowledge* and the film *THIRST/Lost River*, Kat Austen will explore the multi-sensory artistic methods used to interrogate changing landscapes and their complexation with technologies and industry. With an artistic practice embedded in site-specific research drawing on embodiment and acoustic ecology, Austen will elaborate on methods and mediations for getting to know a landscape and engaging with infrastructural landscape transformations. At the heart of this body of work are field recordings from Korea's Solaseado site, where the country's National AI Data Centre is being built. These disappearing landscapes become the voice of transformation, carrying the memories of landscapes, human labour, and more-than-human agents. As AI's demands surge, Austen's artworks ask: what happens when we understand water as a fundamental relation between our bodies and those of the planet and technologies around us?

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Talk

Paulan Korenhof

Your Space or Mine? The Spatial Politics of Environmental Digital Twins

In recent years, there has been a steep increase in the development of 'environmental Digital Twins': Digital Twins of particular spatial environments, whether it be cities, oceans, regions, or the whole planet. The goal of these Digital Twins is often to serve as decision-support systems for environmental governance. However, these Digital Twins are not just digital representations of space: they are also socio-technical systems that produce these representations and are acted upon. As such, they do not only reflect, but also affect and produce spaces. In this presentation, I will critically examine the relation between environmental Digital Twins and 'space'. Drawing on sociology of space, digital ecology, and assemblage theory, I will delve into the socio-political and environmental implications of the ongoing feedback loop between virtual space, representational space, physical space that environmental Digital Twins produce.

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Panel 6

Data Epistemologies

Moderation: Niklas Egberts

Data not only describe the world but are shaped by power and shape what counts as knowledge. This panel brings trans-disciplinary perspectives to the hidden assumptions in data collection, modeling, and governance, asking who gets to know what, and how. Rather than treating data as neutral evidence, panelists foreground its contested, uncertain, and political dimensions as an epistemic artifact with real stakes.

Patricia Reed

Data Sensitivity, Modeling Worlds, and World Models

While Kant infamously wrote that intuitions without concepts are blind, Charles Mills quipped back in ‘white ignorance’ that concept blindness blocks vision. Analogously, in machinic terms, data without a model is asemantic, and yet model ignorance prohibits the interpretability of, and sensitivity to data as relevant in the first instance. Epistemologically speaking, this analogy rehearses the ageless ‘frame’ problem long before digital computation: through what frameworks is data conceptually embedded, such that a meaningful inference can be made, perhaps one that abuts with normative convention? Considering that the history of human knowledge is riddled with reticence towards data that unsettles frameworks of interpretability, this presentation adopts a biosemiotic vantage point in view of human / ML interactions, examining instances of analytic abduction in the encounter between divergent cognitive Umwelten that work to recalibrate sensitivity to data otherwise.

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Talk

Ludovico Rella

A Full Stack Approach to Data Epistemologies

The study of algorithms has long adopted a software-oriented approach that privileged the abstractions and operations that encode “knowledge”—as well as bias and discrimination—extracted from data in parameters, weights and functions. While the materiality underpinning those abstractions has also been investigated, it has largely been as a material substratum resulting from resource extraction, studied for its environmental footprint, energy consumption, and e-waste residue rather than for its active participation in the process of apprehending the world and acting upon it. Drawing on previous work on graphic cards and Edge AI, and relying on STS and media studies of the materiality of cognition, I will outline a future research agenda that foregrounds hardware, and its spatially situated nature, as a fundamental yet overlooked site where the politics of data epistemology plays out.

Bionotes

In alphabetical order by surname

Louise Amoore is Professor of Political Geography and Director of the Leverhulme Centre for Algorithmic Life at Durham University, UK. She is an ERC Laureate for her work on Algorithmic Societies: Ethical Life in the Machine Learning Age. Her books, *Cloud Ethics: Algorithms and the Attributes of Ourselves and Others* (Duke, 2020) and *Politics of Possibility: Risk and Security Beyond Probability* (Duke, 2013), set out the technological and political transformations of machine learning algorithms, biometrics, digital borders, and social justice. Louise is a Fellow of the British Academy.

Cat Ashton currently lives with her mother and her partner as a settler on land administered by the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850. This presentation uses research from a project that was hosted by the University of Siegen from 2022–2025, and received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 945422.

Kat Austen creates artworks about environmental issues. Austen melds disciplines and media, creating sculptural, sound and new media installations, performances and participatory work. Austen's award-winning practice is underpinned by extensive research and theory, and driven by a motivation to explore how to move towards a more socially and environmentally just future. Working from her studio in Berlin, Austen holds a PhD in Chemistry, is Honorary Associate Professor in Art and Science at University College London and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Bionotes

Alexandra Gilliams is a PhD researcher in Art History at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. Her research investigates the aesthetics and politics of artificial intelligence in contemporary art, focusing on spectacle, critical imaginaries, and infrastructures that shape perception. She teaches courses on art and AI and is currently a visiting scholar with the Machine Visual Culture group at the Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max Planck Institute in Rome. She is assistant curator for an upcoming exhibition at MAAT Lisbon, was curatorial assistant for *The World Through AI* at the Jeu de Paume (2025), and co-founded *lattice*, a nonprofit platform for art and technology.

The internationally acclaimed media artists **Juliane Götz** (*1984 in Erding; lives in Heidesee, Germany and Linz, Austria) and **Sebastian Neitsch** (*1982 in Hamburg; lives in Heidesee, Germany and Linz, Austria) both studied at Burg Giebichenstein University of Art and Design Halle and have worked together as a duo since 2015 at the intersection of art, science, and technology. For them, data serve as artistic source material through which they explore questions arising both from social and scientific discourses as well as from collective structures of power and inequality. **Quadrature** has received numerous awards, including the Prix Ars Electronica in 2015 and 2018. They have also been awarded numerous grants and residencies, including those from the Stiftung Kunstfonds, Akademie Schloss Solitude, and the Hertz-Lab at ZKM | Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe. Starting in October 2026, they will serve as Professors of Interface Cultures at the University of Arts Linz, Austria.

Sophia Jaworski is an anthropologist and faculty member at Capilano University. Her research uses ethnographic fieldwork and experimental methods to bring sociocultural anthropology into conversation with feminist science and technology studies, disability studies, and environmental justice. Jaworski's current work examines atmosphere, chemical exposure, and the politics of environmental data. Her forthcoming book, *Volatile Housing: Toxic Atmospheres and Tenant Power*, with Between the Lines Press, examines indoor air, rental housing, and tenant struggles in Toronto and Vancouver, Canada.

Bionotes

Paulan Korenhof is an Assistant Professor at the Environmental Policy (ENP) chair group, Wageningen University & Research (WUR), in the Netherlands. She has an interdisciplinary background in philosophy of technology, law and art. Her research focuses on the intersection of digital technologies and environmental politics, and in particular on digital representations as socio-material sites of environmental governance. In this context, she examines how the material design and infrastructure of complex technological systems like Digital Twins and Artificial Intelligence applications affect representations, problem framing and action pathways in the environmental governance of climate change and biodiversity challenges.

Katrin Köppert is an art and media scholar whose work focuses on media theories of digital colonialism, critical theories of computation at the intersection of art, design, and visual cultures, digital memory studies, queer media studies. She is Acting Professor of Media Theories at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Junior Professor for Art History / Popular Cultures at the Academy of Fine Arts Leipzig. Recent publications include *Digitale Gewalt. Politisierungen affektiver Öffentlichkeiten* (with Jasmin Degeling, Jennifer Eickelmann and Julia Bee, 2026) and “*Knowing memes means knowing the internet as irrevocably black as fuck.*” *Memetische Enteignung und/als Emanzipation* (2025). Köppert lives and works in Berlin.

Frida Mannerfelt is an Associate Professor of Practical Theology at the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies at Lund University, Sweden. Her research focuses on the intersection of religious practices and media, in particular digital culture, spaces, and tools (such as AI).

Konstanze Möller-Jansen studied Business and Economics at TUD Dresden University of Technology and Ca' Foscari Venezia before changing course to study Philosophy at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Freie Universität Berlin. She is a PhD researcher at TUD's Chair of Practical Philosophy and at CeTI (Centre for Tactile Internet), where she worked on the interdisciplinary project “Democratising the Internet of Skills”. She is currently completing her dissertation, which examines the nature of power held by large platform companies and the role and impact of algorithmic regulation.

Bionotes

Manuela Naveau, PhD is a university professor, independent curator, and art-based researcher. Over the course of nearly 18 years at Ars Electronica, she served as Head of Ars Electronica Export, co-developing the department and overseeing its operations from its founding onward. Since 2020, she has been Professor of Interface Cultures / Critical Data at the University of Arts Linz, Austria. In February 2023, she assumed leadership of the department Interface Cultures and founded the Critical Data Research Group. Her research focuses on Media Art and Digital Art, with particular attention to processes of digital participation and interaction. Her work investigates data and data-processing systems through artistic research methodologies and interdisciplinary theoretical and practical frameworks, with a primary focus on discrimination- and disadvantage-critical perspectives. A central contribution of her research addresses participatory processes in Media Art and Digital Art, whose long-standing traditions have often remained overlooked in contemporary art criticism and art theory. Her PhD thesis, later published as the monograph *Crowd and Art*, established an important theoretical contribution to the field. She has since published numerous papers and articles on participation in art and regularly lectures internationally on these topics.

Prof Dr. Ilona Nord holds the chair for Religious Education at Würzburg University, Germany. Her research is focussed on the international discussion on Digital Religion(s) and Digital Theology. Secondly she is director of the Center on Critical Education on Antisemitism at Würzburg University. Here she leads several projects on empirical research for teacher education.

Daria Onitiu is a postdoctoral researcher at the Hasso-Plattner Institute, University of Potsdam. She previously worked at the Trustworthiness Auditing for AI project at the Oxford Internet Institute, as well as the UKRI Trustworthy Autonomous Systems Governance and Regulation Node at the University of Edinburgh. She researches, publishes and speaks on the governance of AI software as a medical device, ethics of AI in health, as well as the real-world challenges on the responsible use, safety, environmental sustainability and security of Large Generative AI models.

Bionotes

Sabrina Pölle studied Business Informatics and Business Administration in Germany, followed by the First State Exam in Law, specialising in national and international criminal justice. She also obtained a master's degree in International Business Law in the UK, focusing on Intellectual Property and IT law. Sabrina has worked as a research assistant in the legal field for several years and is currently a PhD candidate in Criminal Procedural Law at the University of Passau in Germany. Her research interests lie at the intersection of criminal law and technology, with a particular focus on different regulatory and legislative approaches.

Patricia Reed is a theorist, artist and designer based in Berlin. She is Head of Critical Inquiry Lab (MA) at Design Academy Eindhoven (NL), and Lecturer at Folkwang University in Sound Practice Research (DE). She is a 2026 research fellow at the Weibel Institute for Digital Cultures in Vienna. Recent writings have been published in *Informatics of Domination*, *Pierre Huyghe: Liminal*, *Ceremony: Burial of an Undead World*, *Navigation beyond Vision*, and *e-flux Journal*. As Laboria Cuboniks she co-authored the *Xenofeminist Manifesto*, later published by Verso. A Spanish compilation of essays entitled *Cosmovisiones de otro mundo* was released by Holobionte Ediciones in 2025, and her *Figuring Planetary Space* was commissioned by the International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam in 2026.

Ludovico Rella is Assistant Professor at the Department of Geography, and he works in the Synthetic Worlds Thematic Pathway. His research explores digital twins, and the geographies, ecologies and political economies of AI's infrastructural materiality. He has published in journals including *Political Geography*, *Social Studies of Science*, and *Big Data & Society*, and he has a monograph forthcoming with Manchester University Press, building on his PhD dissertation, which was awarded the Financial Geographies Doctoral Dissertation Prize in 2021. Ludovico serves as Editor for *Digital Geography and Society* and Assistant Editor for *Backchannels—Blog of the 4S* and chairs Durham's Digital Geographies Thematic Group.

Bionotes

Avinash Sharma is a researcher at People for Himalayan Development in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh. He works on water security, forest rights and community climate adaptation in the Western Himalaya. He holds an M.A. in Development Studies from IIT Mandi, where he wrote on the epistemic cultures of climate modelling. He also runs the Himalayan Wisdom Network, a public archive of Himalayan environmental knowledge. His chapter *Climate Modelling as Datafied Decision-Making: Post-Normal Science in Practice* is forthcoming in the Schaufler Lab volume.

Joanna Zylińska is a writer, artist, curator and Professor of Media Philosophy + Critical Digital Practice at King's College London, where she directs the Centre for the Ecologies of Attention and Perception. An advocate of 'radical open-access', she is a co-Director of Open Humanities Press and an editor of its *MEDIA : ART : WRITE : NOW* book series. Zylińska is an author of a number of books—including *The Perception Machine: Our Photographic Future Between the Eye and AI* (MIT Press, 2023), *AI Art: Machine Visions and Warped Dreams* (Open Humanities Press, 2020) and *The End of Man: A Feminist Counterapocalypse* (University of Minnesota Press, 2018). Her own art practice involves experimenting with different kinds of image-based media. Zylińska is currently researching perception and cognition as boundary zones between human and machine intelligence, while examining various narratives of collapse, be it on the level of AI models or planetary systems.

Information

Venue

TUD Dresden University of Technology
Görges Building
Lecture Hall GÖR/226
Helmholtzstraße 9
01069 Dresden
Germany

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Schaufler Lab@TU Dresden

Speakers

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Moritz Ingwersen, Speaker of the Schaufler Lab@TU Dresden and Schaufler Kolleg@TU Dresden

Prof. Dr. Orit Halpern, Co-Speaker of the Schaufler Kolleg@TU Dresden

Kirsten Vincenz, Speaker of the Schaufler Residency@TU Dresden | Director, Office for Academic Heritage (Kustodie), TUD

Project Coordination Schaufler Lab@TU Dresden

Dr. Anke Woschech

Schaufler Kolleg@TU Dresden

Dr. Özgün Eylül İçen, Research Associate (Postdoc) | Training Coordinator

Research Associates (Doctoral):

Marie Briese

Niklas Egberts

Andrew Erickson

Johanna Charlotte Grosche

Jasmin Höning

Alexandra Lorch

Nelly Saibel

Schaufler Residency@TU Dresden |
Office for Academic Heritage (Kustodie), TUD
Gwendolin Kremer, Curator
Pauline Hohn, Curatorial Assistant

Communications
Stephan Wiegand

Contact

Schaufler Lab@TU Dresden
TUD Dresden University of Technology
schaufler.lab@tu-dresden.de
+49 351 463-44357

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