

A...kademie der bildenden Künste Wien

## **Graduate Conference 2024**

April 30, 2024, 9.30 am – 2 pm

Sitzungssaal, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, Schillerplatz 3

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### Program

Start	Presentation
9.30 am	Welcome Ingeborg Erhart, Vice-Rector for Art and Teaching
9.45 am	Elisa Linn Roguszcak <i>Self-Organization from Below to Strike the Border: The “Berlin Wall as a Condom” against the “Other” during the AIDS Pandemic and amidst the Cold War Confrontation</i> Moderation: Jovita Pristovšek Discussant: Ruby Jana Sircar
10.35 am	Alexandra Tatar <i>The Teleported Subject in Post-Socialist Romania Rethinking the Possibility of Eastern European Subjects at the Intersection of (Global) Media and Regional History: The Example of Handmade Satellite Dishes</i> Moderation: Jovita Pristovšek Discussant: Axel Stockburger
11.25 am	Break
11.40 am	Lina Ramadan <i>Rethinking Methodologies: The Case of Modern Arab Art</i> Moderation: Lenka Stepankova Discussant: Huda Takriti
12.30 pm	Cathérine Lehnerer <i>Life in pictures - autobiographical comics as a means of dialogical learning</i> Moderation: Diana Bulzan Discussant: Jovita Pristovšek
1.20 pm	Final words
1.30 pm	Light lunch and networking

## Abstracts

### Self-Organization from Below to Strike the Border: The “Berlin Wall as a Condom” against the “Other” during the AIDS Pandemic and amidst the Cold War Confrontation

by Elisa Linn Roguszczak

This presentation deals with the impact of borders and “border thinking” on marginalized communities at the beginning and peak of the AIDS crisis between 1983 and 1993 on both sides of the Berlin Wall. It addresses how both German nation-states instrumentalized the AIDS crisis amidst the Cold War confrontation to fortify the sovereignty and external borders of the nation-state at the cost of the Other. Here, it examines empowering self-organization processes of marginalized communities within existing hegemonic structures and how these transformed thinking the border to striking the border.

### The Teleported Subject in Post-Socialist Romania Rethinking the Possibility of Eastern European Subjects at the Intersection of (Global) Media and Regional History: The Example of Handmade Satellite Dishes

by Alexandra Tatar

The state of the former Eastern European subject in post-socialism, is rethought through the prism of a 1980s case study of handmade satellite installations. The concept of Eastern Europe is contextualized within the critique of modernity through decolonial theory and the history of the socialist regime recalibrated through the decolonial paradigm. Technology, in the form of a satellite dish is inserted into this linearity, acting as a remodeler of the understanding of the subject in its intertwining between telematic global space and decolonial approaches to Eastern Europe.

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## Rethinking Methodologies: The Case of Modern Arab Art

by Lina Ramadan

This paper is derived from an in-progress dissertation entitled "Women Solidarity: Rethinking Mid-Twentieth Century Arab Art." It examines the movements and histories of Arab artists through rethinking feminist ways of reading art modernities and entanglements. Centered on the contributions of several pivotal artists including Tamam Al Akhal, Inji Efflatoun, Huguette Caland, and Simone Fattal, the dissertation traces artistic productions, daily practices, and the influential role of women-led organizations in shaping historical discourse. The research seeks to unravel the dynamics arising from the production and circulation of ideas as artistic means and the production of Arab political and feminist discourse. This presentation will focus on the methodology aspect of the research, ways of investigating and interpreting archives, and modes of working with museum collections.

## Life in pictures - autobiographical comics as a means of dialogical learning

by Cathérine Lehnerer

In this presentation, I will present my current results and discuss the extent to which participation can be facilitated through the analysis and production of autobiographical comics in workshop settings. The medium of comics offers itself as a versatile method for capturing the lifeworlds of young people – with their wishes and needs – in order to start a critical dialog at various educational institutions. The focus here is on questions of representation and power hierarchies.

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## Presenters

### Elisa Linn Roguszczak

Elisa R. Linn (Elisa Linn Roguszczak) is a writer, exhibition maker, and educator. She is the co-director and curator of Halle für Kunst Lüneburg e.V. and teaches at Leuphana University and the Architectural Association Visiting School Zürich. She is a graduate of the Whitney Independent Study Program and pursuing her Ph.D. in philosophy with Marina Gržinić at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. She has held the interim professorship of the chair of Art Theory and Mediation, representing Prof. Dr. Kerstin Stakemeier at the Academy of Fine Arts Nuremberg in 2022. Linn contributed to publications and magazines such as Frieze, Starship, artforum, Texte zur Kunst, BOMB, and Jacobin and is the co-editor of several publications, including Peter Fend: AFRICA-ARCTIC FLYWAY I PHYSIOCRATIC STATES (Sternberg Press/MIT Press, 2022); KP Brehmer: Song of Growth (Hacienda Books, 2020) and Omnipresence (Whitney Museum of American Art, 2018).

### Alexandra Tatar

Alexandra Tatar is a researcher and visual artist living and working in Vienna since 2011. Focusing on grass roots movements in technology during socialism, her doctoral research at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, supervised by Univ.-Prof. Dr. Phil Marina Gržinić, is interrogating the formation of post-socialist subjectivities. She is a graduate of the Lectureship Program of Academy of Fine Arts 2022/23, and since 2023, a member of Cost Action Group Grassroots of Digital Europe: from Historic to Contemporary Cultures of Creative Computing (GRADE). Her work has been exhibited at MNAC National Museum of Contemporary Art Bucharest (RO), FLUCA – Austrian Cultural Pavilion Plovdiv (BG), VBKÖ (AT) and at the Vienna Art Week, amongst others, and her video work has been screened at international film festivals.

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## Lina Ramadan

Lina Ramadan is a writer and curator specialized in modern and contemporary art. Her research centers on post-colonial MENA histories, women artists, and solidarities. Currently, she is exploring independent and collaborative projects around the politics of seeing and feeling. She holds a BA in English Literature from Qatar University and an MA in Museum Studies from UCL. From 2016 to 2022, Ramadan served as an Assistant Curator at Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art in Doha. Her recent exhibitions include: “Taysir Batniji: No Condition is Permanent” (2022-23); “Kader Attia: On Silence” (2021); “Raqs Media Collective: Still More World” (2019), among others. Ramadan has contributed to various publications, and currently she is the book editor of “Madness of the Anthropocene: Thinking with an Image,” forthcoming. She is the recipient of the 421 Curatorial Development Program for 2023-24 and The Darat al Funun Dissertation Fellowship for Modern and Contemporary Arab Art 2024-25.

## Cathérine Lehnerer

When I started teaching in schools in 2013, I quickly realized that my enthusiastic ideas and pedagogical standards were quickly reaching their limits. So in 2018, I decided to write a dissertation about the education system with my professor Marina Gržinić. Comics play a central role in my own artistic practice and I quickly realized that autobiographical comics in particular show great potential in pedagogical settings. I developed several workshops for this purpose. In January 2021, the workshop *Training. Von Schülerinnen lernen, was Konvivialität bedeuten kann* took place online via Zoom. A year later, I designed a workshop with the same pupils for the exhibition *Thicket of ideas / Thicket of times* called *speaking objects*. In November 2021, I took part in the conference *Comics and Agency* of Gesellschaft für Comicforschung and I was able to contribute to the associated book the following year with a publication.