"Life"
The Saving Word
New York University
March 29-31, 2007

Seminar Room Philosophy
Silver Building 5th floor
100 Washington Square East

DFG-Graduiertenkolleg
Lebensformen & Lebenswissen
European University Viadrina | University of Potsdam
Speakers: Anselm Haverkamp | Christoph Menke
www.gk.lebensformen-lebenswissen.de

Poetics & Theory Program
New York University
Directors: Anselm Haverkamp | Michèle Lowrie
www.nyu.edu/fas/program/poeticsandtheory/

Organization
Felix Ensslin | Thomas Khurana | Dirk Setton |
Kathrin Thiele | Katrin Trüstedt

Contact
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March 29, 2007

6:00 pm
Anselm Havemann (NYU, Viadrina)
Whose Life?

6:30 pm Landscapes of Life
Peter Galison (Harvard)
Wastelands and Wilderness

Panel Discussants
Thomas Dikant (Potsdam) | Dirk Setton (Potsdam) | Katrin Trüstedt (Viadrina)

March 30, 2007

10:00 am Dirk Setton (Potsdam)
Introduction

10:15 am Literary Creatures
Moderation: Katrin Trüstedt (Viadrina)
Alice Crary (New School)
Literature and the Lives of Animals
Jay Bernstein (New School)
Mad Raccoon, Demented Quail, and the Herring Holocaust
(Notes for a Reading of W.G. Sebald)

12:30 pm Lunch

2:30 pm Spontaneity and Mechanism
Moderation: Alexandra Heimes (Viadrina)
Eckart Förster (Johns Hopkins)
Kant and Goethe on Comprehending Living Phenomena
Justin E. H. Smith (Concordia)
A Belated Defense of Spontaneous Generation

5:00 pm Coffee Break

5:30 pm Motion and Machine
Moderation: Nikolas Zok (Potsdam)
Helmut Müller-Sievers (Northwestern)
Life - Motion - Machines. The Emergence of Kinematics in the 19th Century
Erica Weitzman (NYU)
Are We Not Men? Life as Becoming-Machine

March 31, 2007

10:00 am Politics of Potentiality
Moderation: Felix Ensslin (Potsdam)
Joan Copjec (Buffalo)
The Angel of Potentiality. Agamben and the Muslim Mystics
Kathrin Thiele (Viadrina)
Life - Ethics - Politics. Rethinking the Limits

12:30 pm Lunch

3:00 pm Dialectics of Life
Moderation: Dirk Setton (Potsdam)
Thomas Khurana (Potsdam)
Force and Form. Towards a Dialectics of the Living
Leonard Lawlor (Memphis)
The 'Weak' Response to the Suffering of the Living: An Attempt to Follow Derrida