

## Biographies

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**Evelyn Annuß**, Professor of Gender Studies, heads the International Research Center Gender and Performativity (IGCP) at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. Her work is dedicated to the flight lines of aesthetics, theories of performativity, and the critique of politics. As a cultural studies scholar of theatre and literature, she focuses, among other things, on political spectacles—their historicity and mediality—in the context of National Socialism, colonial racisms, and processes of (re-)fascization. Her new book *Dirty Dragging. Performative Transpositions* is being published simultaneously in German and in English by mdwPress.

**Sam Ehrentraut** is a research associate and a doctoral candidate in the FWF project *Dramaturgies after Postdramatic Theater* at the Department of Theater, Film, and Media Studies at the University of Vienna. He is also affiliated with the Cluster of Excellence *Temporal Communities* (Free University of Berlin), where he organizes collaborative formats that bring academic and artistic perspectives into dialogue. His research focuses on performative dynamics of time-based media, media ontologies, and aesthetic concepts in the field of trans studies.

**Nanna Heidenreich** is a media and cultural studies scholar and a curator for film/video/interventions. She is currently Professor of Transcultural Studies at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna, after positions in universities, art and film schools in Düsseldorf, Köln, Hildesheim and Braunschweig. As a curator, she has worked with Forum Expanded / International Filmfestival Berlin (Berlinale) and HKW (Berlin) among others. Her work focuses on critical migration studies, postcolonial media theory, image politics and queer cinema. Current research areas are age/rage, the relation of fascism and aesthetics, and so called “alien species”. She lives in Berlin and Vienna.

**Elaine Frantz** is a historian of violence in the nineteenth and twentieth century United States. Her work focuses on particular historical conflicts characterized by systemic violence, and considers the function and results of this violence, and how contemporaries—perpetrators, victims, witnesses,

and the broader public—theyself described and responded to these acts of violence. She has published books on the reconstruction-era Ku Klux Klan and on nineteenth-century male drinking culture, and is now finishing a book on policing in Pittsburgh, with the working title: “*Just a Copper*”: *Policing Pittsburgh 1869–1934*.

**Aurélie Godet** is a Full Professor of U.S. History at Nantes Université, France, and a junior fellow of the Institut Universitaire de France for the 2023–2028 period. After working on the history and ascendancy of conservative movements and ideas in the United States between 2005 and 2014, she pivoted to a new research topic in 2015: the history of festive practices in the Atlantic world from the sixteenth century to the contemporary period. She recently completed a manuscript titled *Betwixt Fear and Hardship: Joy in French Colonial Louisiana, 1682–1769*, and currently sits on the editorial board of the online, peer-reviewed *Journal of Festive Studies*, which she cofounded in 2019.

**Katrin Köppert** is an art and media scholar. Her work focuses on media theories of digital colonialism, critical theories of computation, post-/decolonial media theories of the Anthropocene at the intersection of art, design, and visual cultures, digital memory studies, queer media aesthetics. She currently holds the professorship for media theory at the Institute for Music and Media Studies at Humboldt University in Berlin and is a Junior Professor of Art History/Popular Cultures at the Academy of Fine Arts in Leipzig. She has recently published the co-edited book *digital:gender—de:mapping affect* (Spector Books, 2025) and is now writing a book on *Computational Blackface*.

**Karin Harrasser** is the director of ifk International Research Center for Cultural Studies in Vienna and a Professor of Cultural Theory at the University of Arts Linz. In addition to her academic activities, she has been involved in various artistic and curatorial projects, e.g. at Tanzquartier Wien or with MAPA Teatro and the Colombian Truth Commission in Bogotá. Her research currently focuses on asymmetrical cultural transfers between Europe and South America and on modes and histories of cultural violence. Recent books: *Surazo. Monika und Hans Ertl: Eine deutsche Geschichte in Bolivien* (2022), translated into Spanish and Brazilian, and *Gegenentkommen* (2023).

**Julia Ostwald** is a dance scholar and postdoctoral researcher in the ERC-project OLFACT. *Exploring the Intervening Performativity of Smell* at the University of Arts Linz (AT). Situated at the intersections of dance theory, performance studies, and cultural history, her research focuses on the entanglements of sensual perceptions, aesthetics, and (body-)politics in the context

of dance and choreography. Julia previously worked as a senior scientist in gender studies at mdw—University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna and as a project assistant at the doctoral school *gender\_transcultural* at Salzburg University.

**nora chipaumire** was born in 1965 in what was then known as Umtali, Rhodesia (now Mutare, Zimbabwe). She is a product of colonial education for black native Africans—known as group B schooling—and is invested in knowledge acquisition and sharing outside of prescribed parameters.

**Jay Pather** is a choreographer, curator, and dance scholar. He is the director of the Siwela Sonke Dance Theatre and served as Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town's Centre for Theatre, Dance and Performance. He directs the Institute for Creative Arts and curates major public-art and live-art events such as the Infecting the City Festival and the AfroVibes Festival. His work combines performance, site-specific interventions and interdisciplinary arts practice to explore post-coloniality, spatial justice, and urban embodiment.

**Raz Weiner** (Dr.) is a scholar of performance studies, politics, and embodiment. His work focuses on traditions, archives and contemporary forms of colonialism, racialization and queerness, the production of bodies and knowledge, and the co-constitution of human societies and digital worlds. Before becoming a guest lecturer (2024) and research fellow (2023) at mdw, he was based in the School of Politics and IR at Queen Mary University in London (2020—2022) and the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning at The Technion in Haifa (2021—2023).

