

Opening Conference June 5–6, 2026

Goethe University
I.G. Farben-Gebäude
Norbert Wollheim-Platz 1
Frankfurt am Main
Room: IG 311

Registration required:
info@aesthetics-of-democracy.de

Aesthetics of Democracy

DFG Research Training Group

June 5

- 03:00 – 03:15 p.m. **Welcome Address**
Ulrich Schielein (vice president, Goethe University) and Prof. Dr. Johannes Völz (spokesperson, RTG Aesthetics of Democracy)
- 03:15 – 04:45 p.m. **Crowd Theory and Counterrevolution**
Prof. Dr. Jason Frank (Cornell University)
- 04:45 – 05:00 p.m. **Coffee break**
- 05:00 – 06:30 p.m. **Praktische Perspektiven auf die Ästhetik der Demokratie**
Panel discussion (in German)
with Dr. Deborah Schnabel (Bildungsstätte Anne Frank), Prof. Franziska Nori (Kunstverein Frankfurt), Matthias Wagner K (Museum Angewandte Kunst Frankfurt) and Jürgen Kaube (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung).
Moderated by
Prof. Dr. Johannes Völz and Prof. Dr. Sophie Loidolt (deputy spokesperson, RTG Aesthetics of Democracy)

June 6

- 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Transnational Aesthetics of Democracy: A Roundtable with Lalan Fakir, Rabindranath and Immanuel Kant**
Prof. Dr. Anindya Sekhar Purakayastha (ILSR Kolkata and Kazi Nazrul University)
- 11:00 – 11:15 a.m. **Coffee break**
- 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Art as Exercise? Practices in Contemporary Art and Radical Democracy**
Prof. Dr. Francesca Raimondi (Hochschule für Gestaltung Offenbach)
- 12:15 – 01:30 p.m. **Lunch**
- 01:30 – 02:45 p.m. **Democracy: A Fragile Way of Life**
Prof. Dr. Till van Rahden (Université de Montréal)
response by
Prof. Dr. Ajay Gudavarthy (Jawaharlal Nehru University New Delhi)
- 02:45 – 03:00 p.m. **Coffee break**
- 03:00 – 04:00 p.m. **The Visibility of Partition and the Partition of Visibility**
Prof. Dr. Patricia Hayes (University of the Western Cape)



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