

EINLADUNG ZUM GASTVORTRAG

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A politics of reading. Aesthetic education on a damaged planet

In recent years, the field of literary studies has debated its future directions especially around methods of reading, be it distant or surface reading, the ethics of reading tied to close textual engagement as the experience of otherness or reading in translation. Against this backdrop, the lecture examines what diffractive reading – a term stemming from Karen Barad’s work on quantum entanglement – might offer to these debates. We will first examine Etel Adnan’s poetic essay *Journey to Mount Tamalpais* (1986) and see how it challenges readers to pursue entanglements of the ecological, scientific, colonial and artistic. The essay thickens time and space around Tamalpais and thereby fabricates a *polis* hitherto invisibilized. Such new patterns of living differ significantly from the use of pattern in distant and surface reading. In a second step, the lecture then compares these approaches and asks how the reading that Adnan performs and invites not only practices our exposure to otherness (*ethics* of reading), but especially trains our perception of entanglement. Given that Western modes of consumption are implicated in global heating, an aesthetic education in Adnan’s sense – as viscerally realizing entanglement – might imply a different politics of reading for living on a damaged planet.

Interessierte sind herzlich willkommen!

ZEIT UND ORT

Dienstag, den 5.11.2019, 10:15 Uhr

GeiWi-Turm, Hörsaal 4