

The Times of History

20–21 March 2017, BGHS, Bielefeld University
Conference Room X B2 103

The Times of History

The question of historical time(s) is at the core of theoretical debates on history. In fact, it has already played a central role in a large variety of perspectives and has created a point of convergence among the well-established approaches of Whitean narrativism, phenomenology, “end of history” theories, the postmodern “incredulity toward metanarratives,” and the investigations of Koselleck. Yet, what seems to be more important is not that half-a-century old theories converge in their shared implication of questions regarding the temporality of history, but that the question of historical time(s) is also at the forefront in newer approaches. It features equally prominently in Derridean “hauntology,” in theories of presentism as explicated by Hartog or Assmann (claiming that we are living in a time when our sole point of view is that of the present), in the discourse around the notion of “presence” as advocated by Gumbrecht or Runia), and in political theories of the self-identified Left from Ranciere to Mouffe (complaining about the lack of future visions to challenge the status quo).

In 2015 December, Bielefeld already hosted an inspiring workshop entitled [*Time in History / Time as History*](#). This second installment continues the discussion with a somewhat broader focus that revolves around the more inclusive theme of *The Times of History*.

The workshop is open for everyone. If you would like to participate, please register by sending an email to Zoltán Boldizsár Simon: zoltanbsimon@uni-bielefeld.de.



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Monday, 20 March

- 10:30 - 10:40 **Welcome and Introduction**
Zoltán Boldizsár Simon
- 10:40 - 12:00 **Session 1** Chair: **Délia Popa**
Broos Delanote
Living in Existential Time: History and the Last Man
Kalle Pihlainen
Why the Future Needs No History
- 12:00 - 13:40 **Lunch**
- 13:40 - 15:00 **Session 2** Chair: **Marek Tamm**
Katie Digan
How to Get From 'Old Things' to 'World Heritage' in a Fairly Short Stretch of Time: A Critical History of UNESCO's World Heritage
Marius Meinhof
Colonial Temporality and Modernization Movements in China
- 15:00 - 15:40 **Coffee**
- 15:40 - 17:00 **Session 3** Chair: **Britta Hochkirchen**
Marek Tamm
We Have Always Been Presentist: Or, How to Overcome the Short Interlude of Historicism?
Chris Lorenz
Out of Time? Some Reflections on Francois Hartog's 'Presentism'



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Tuesday, 21 March

10:00 - 12:00

Session 4

Chair: **Katie Digan**

Délia Popa

Geography Rather Than History? Requests Concerning Situated Knowledge

Johannes Grave

Pictorial Time: Seeing Pictures and Experiencing Time

Egon Bauwelinck

Memory as a Mediator of Embodiment in Charles Péguy

12:00 - 13:40

Lunch

13:40 - 15:00

Session 5

Chair: **Egon Bauwelinck**

Natan Elgabsi

The Relevance and Irrelevance of Time in Historical Understanding

Gábor Tverdota

Confronting Paradigms: Mannheim and Blumenberg on the Problem of Continuity and Discontinuity of Historical Time

15:00 - 15:40

Coffee

15:40 - 17:00

Closing Roundtable

Chair: **Zoltán Boldizsár Simon**

Berber Bevernage, Kirsten Kramer, and Thomas Welskopp

On the Times of History

