

Taking the years between 1905 and 1965 as the temporal frame, this conference seeks to rethink Global Modernisms from a transregional perspective. Current conceptualizations of avantgardism and formal innovation related to places like Paris, New York, Weimar or Moscow continue to inform Global Modernisms' intellectual field. Global Modernisms are often presented as a symptom for new Westernism that masquerades as the universal. This conference seeks a more constitutive conceptual vision.

Understanding Global Modernisms as clusters of artistic, intellectual, technological, institutional, socio-cultural, and political arrangements, the conference focuses on this field as an effect of contiguities and infrastructures. We approach contiguities as global and local zones of intellectual and artistic proximity and difference, and infrastructures as combinations of physical, political, social and intellectual formations.

Convened by:

**Atreyee Gupta**, Art Histories and Aesthetic Practices  
Fellow 2015/2016

**Hannah Baader**, Art Histories and Aesthetic Practices/  
Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz/Max-Planck-Institut

**Patrick Flores**, University of the Philippines and the Vargas  
Museum, Manila

#### Conference Venue:

Haus der Kulturen der Welt  
John-Foster-Dulles-Allee 10  
10557 Berlin

Train/Subway: S-Bahn Hauptbahnhof (S3, S5, S7, S9, S75)/  
U-Bahn Bundestag (U 55)

Bus: Bus 100 and Bus M 85

#### Contact:

Forum Transregionale Studien e. V.  
Wallotstr. 14  
14193 Berlin

Tel. +49 30 89001-430

Fax +49 30 89001-440

[initiatives@trafo-berlin.de](mailto:initiatives@trafo-berlin.de)

[forum-transregionale-studien.de](http://forum-transregionale-studien.de)

In the framework of

**Art Histories and  
Aesthetic Practices**

In cooperation with

**HKW**  
Haus der Kulturen der Welt

SPONSORED BY THE



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research

Photo credit: Architect Habib Rahman explains the details of the plans of Rabindra Bhavan and the Lalit Kala Akademi buildings to Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru on May 7th 1961, New Delhi, India. Photo: ©Ram Rahman/Sukanya Rahman.



**Annual Conference** 5-7 Nov 2015  
**Global Modernisms**  
Contiguities, Infrastructures and Aesthetic Practices

Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin

**Forum  
Transregionale  
Studien**



**Max Weber  
Stiftung**

Deutsche  
Geisteswissenschaftliche  
Institute im Ausland

**Thursday, 5 November 2015 | Theatersaal**

**19:00 Welcome Address & Keynote**

**Bernd Scherer**, Haus der Kulturen der Welt

**Hans van Ess**, Max Weber Stiftung – Deutsche Geisteswissenschaftliche Institute im Ausland/ LMU München

**Barbara Mittler**, Forum Transregionale Studien/ Universität Heidelberg

**Arjun Appadurai**, New York University  
**Indian Popular Cinema in the Making of a Decolonized Modernity**

**Friday, 6 November 2015 | Conference room K1**

**9:30 Welcome & Introduction**

**Hannah Baader**, Berlin/Florenz

**Atreyee Gupta**, Berlin/Oakland

**10:00 Dhruv Raina**, New Delhi  
Scientific Internationalism and Modernism during the Inter War Years

**10:45 Ming Tiampo**, Ottawa  
infra/structure/paris

**Chair: Barbara Wittmann**, Berlin

**Break**

**11:45 Thomas Kirchner**, Paris  
Competing Modernisms. The Case of Berlin after 1945

**12:30 Elena Shtromberg**, Salt Lake City  
A Systems Perspective of Brazilian Art

**Chair: Kerstin Schankweiler**, Berlin

**Break**

**14:30 Patrick Flores**, Manila  
“Asiatic Complications” and the Implications of Irredenta

**15:15 Nancy Adajania**, Mumbai  
The Funambular Modernists: Experiments with Precarious Infrastructure (1950s-1980s)

**Chair: Zaal Andronikashvili**, Berlin

**Break**

**16:30 Nada Shabout**, Denton  
Proclaiming the Modern Moment Through Cultural Arabism

**17:15 Harsha Ram**, Berkeley  
The Scale of Global Modernisms: Imperial, Regional, National, Local

**Chair: Saleem Al-Bahloly**, Berlin

**18:00 Project Presentation at the Café Global  
Curating After the Year Zero**

**Annett Busch** and **Anselm Franke**, HKW, Berlin

**19:00 Roundtable Discussion  
Curating Global Modernisms in the 21st Century**

**Catherine David**, Musée National d'Art Moderne/CCI, Centre Pompidou, Paris

**Clémentine Deliss**, Independent Curator/Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin

**Patrick Flores**, University of the Philippines and the Vargas Museum, Manila

**Anselm Franke**, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin

**Nicola Müllerschön**, KfW-Stiftung, Frankfurt/M.

**Stefan Weber**, Museum für Islamische Kunst, Berlin

Moderation: **Atreyee Gupta** and **Hannah Baader**

**Saturday, 7 November 2015 | Conference room K1**

**10:00 Rakhee Balaram**, Berlin/Albany  
Black Madonna of Modernism: Situating Amrita Sher Gil's Two Girls

**10:45 Merel van Tilburg**, Paris  
From Aesthetic Colonialism to a Creolized Aesthetic: Negotiating Universalism, *Francité*, and Negritude in Senegalese and French Modernist Tapestry

**Chair: Monica Juneja**, Heidelberg

**Break**

**11:45 Romuald Tchibozo**, Abomey-Calavi  
Global Modernisms, a Study of the Concept in African Intricate and Plural Contexts

**12:30 Combiz Moussavi-Aghdam**, Tehran/Berlin  
Modern Trends in Pre-Revolutionary Iranian Art and the Question of Alternative Modernism

**Chair: Sérgio Costa**, Berlin

**Break**

**13:30 Final Discussion**  
Moderation: **Hannah Baader**, **Patrick Flores**, **Atreyee Gupta**