Infrastructures and forms of community in informal art spaces in a global context

A workshop at the Käte Hamburger Research Centre global dis:connect

The two-part conference addresses the infrastructure of art spaces and smaller organisations and their impact on the formation of social communities. The conference will discuss the infrastructural prerequisites (technical, material, immaterial, economic) of establishing alternative art spaces.

From a global perspective, we are interested in structures of self-organisation (shared/parallel uses, informal infrastructures), curation (collective, creative as well as resistant processes), instituting practices (consolidation of informal infrastructures) and distribution (publishers, independent printing companies).

Non-institutionalised spaces are likely a necessary starting point for political liberation through art. To what extent do non-institutionalised art spaces have emancipatory effects, and how are they networked internationally? What forms of community arise from the practice of alternative institutions, organisations and initiatives? What frictions emerge between informal and institutionalised spaces and in the relationship between (local) impact and (global) perception?

Your participation is understood to imply consent to photographic and video recordings for internal purposes, scholarly communication and publicity.

gd:c global dis :connect

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LMU LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN

Infrastructures and forms of community in informal art spaces in a global context

1–2 December 2026

Concept and Organisation:
Burcu Dogramaci
Nina Möntmann



Buch Handlung Welt (1976—1983), Hamburg, photo: Michael Kellner

Please register by 25 November 2026

Käte Hamburger Research Centre
global dis:connect
LMU Munich
Maria-Theresia-Straße 21
81675 Munich

Tuesday, 1 December 2026

17:00 Visiting art spaces in Munich (Habibi Kiosk and Kunstraum München, hosted by Sophie Eisenried, Lena von Geyso and Angela Stiegler)
Meeting point: Habibi Kiosk, Maximilianstr. 26, 80539 Munich

Wednesday, 2 December 2026

Venue: Käte Hamburger Research Centre global dis:connect, Maria-Theresia-Str. 21, Library

9:15 *Registration, welcome & introduction*
Burcu Dogramaci (Munich) and Nina Möntmann (Cologne)

10:00 *Infrastructures of experimentation: curatorial agency and alternative institutional practices in Socialist Yugoslavia*
Ana Ereš *(Belgrad)*

10:45 *Reweaving the ground: curating situated knowledge and community in Dakar*
Agnes Stillger (Cologne)

11:30 Coffee break

12:00 *International sculpture symposia as temporary art spaces and infrastructural sites of entanglements. Alina Szapocznikow – A case study*
Ursula Ströbele (Braunschweig)

12:45 *Between functional sites and artistic infrastructures*
Sabeth Buchmann (Vienna)

13:30 Lunch break

14:30 *Roadmap for an otherwise: collectively building caring infrastructures*
Sascia Bailer (Freiburg)

15:15 *From the cosmos to the commons – from dreaming to the hands-on practices. On art, activism and community dilemmas*
Joanna Warsza (Hamburg)

16:00 *Books, murals and performances at Buch Handlung Welt in Hamburg (1976–1983). A lecture & screening*
Burcu Dogramaci (Munich)

16:45 Closing remarks & farewell

The Munich workshop follows the first conference in Cologne at 4 November 2026 on the topic of “Institutionalisation as active participation in migrant and decolonial contexts“.

This workshop is a joint project between “connecting – excluding: Cultural Dynamics Beyond Globalized Networks”, a research training group at the University of Cologne and the Käte Hamburger Research Centre global dis:connect at the LMU Munich.

Workshop team: Doğukan Akbaş, Aydin Alinejad, Ben Kamis, Veronika Proske, Simon Schlegl, Theresa Sollmann, Ophelia Wach, Leo Zinth