

The Digital Beyond

(Im)Mortality and Humanity between Data and AI

June 26th 2026, Haus am Ostfriedhof, Munich

- 10:00 Prof. Dr. Manuel Trummer | Dr. Alexandra Rau (LMU Munich)
Opening Remarks and Introductory Statement
- 10:20 The User's Perspective. Interview Christian Siege
Chair: PD Dr. Rudolf Seising (Deutsches Museum, Munich)
- 10:50 Dr. Anu A. Harju (University of Helsinki):
Thinking with data: The changing techno-affective
contours of digital afterlife assemblages
- 11:10 PD Dr. Thorsten Benkel (University Passau):
The Multiple Bodies of the Dead. A Sociology Enquiry
into the Realm of Deathbots
Chair: Dr. Christina Dieckhoff (bidt, Munich)
- 12:30 The Artist's Perspective. Movie Discussion
„The Future is NOT Unwritten“
Prof. Susanne Steinmaßl (Mozarteum Salzburg)
- 14:00 Dr. Alexandra Rau (LMU Munich):
Digital Transformations of Postmortem Relationships:
An Ethnography of AI-Based Practices of Mourning,
Care, and Remembrance
- 14:20 Prof. Dr. Sven Nyholm (LMU Munich):
Can AI twin chatbots preserve our relationships with
the dead? Can they preserve what is most valuable about
human relationships? A philosophical perspective
- 15:30 The Industry's Perspective I. Stefan Miedzianowski
(Chief Scientist, DeepL): The Human Voice in the Age of AI.
Voice AI and the Context of Digital Identity
- 16:10 Ass. Prof. Dr. Katarzyna Nowaczyk-Basinska (Leverhulme Centre
for the Future of Intelligence, Cambridge):
Who Designs the Digital Afterlife? Towards Participatory and
Culturally-Sensitive Design Practices in the Digital Afterlife Industry
- 16:30 Prof. Dr. Clara Saraiva (ICS – University of Lisbon):
Digital ghosts in Southwest Europe: new death ways in Portugal
- 17:15 The Industry's Perspective II. Hendrik Lind (CEO TrostHelden). Video Impulse
Round Table: Researching Digital Afterlife. Perspectives and Horizons
Chair: Jana Lobe M.A.
- 18:00 (Analogue) Get-Together