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# BIRGIT M. KAISER & KATHRIN THIELE THE SPACETIME OF CRITICAL MATTERS

HOSTED BY THE DFG RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP "CULTURES OF CRITIQUE" AND THE  
CENTER FOR CRITICAL STUDIES (CCS), LEUPHANA UNIVERSITY LÜNEBURG

**TUESDAY,  
JUNE 4, 2024  
7 PM**

**LECTURE, C40.256**

**Birgit Mara Kaiser** is Associate  
Professor of Comparative Literature  
and Transcultural Aesthetics at  
Utrecht University, The Netherlands.

**Kathrin Thiele** is Associate  
Professor of Gender Studies and  
Critical Theory at Utrecht University,  
The Netherlands.

Together they are founding  
coordinators of *Terra Critica: Inter-  
disciplinary Network for the Critical  
Humanities* (and editors of *New  
Critical Humanities*, a book series  
with Rowman & Littlefield. In the  
context of *Terra Critica*, they co-  
edited *Symptoms of the Planetary  
Condition* (2017, with M. Bunz) and  
*The Ends of Critique* (2022, with  
T. O'Leary). More information:  
[www.terracritica.net](http://www.terracritica.net).

**FOR THE WORKSHOP PLEASE  
REGISTER BY MAY 29, 2024:  
KDK@LEUPHANA.DE**

**LEUPHANA UNIVERSITY LÜNEBURG  
UNIVERSITÄTSALLEE 1  
21335 LÜNEBURG**

**WEDNESDAY,  
JUNE 5, 2024  
12–2 PM**

**WORKSHOP, C40.255**

In resonance with Derrida's doubling of "ends" in his 1968 essay "The Ends of Man", this collaborative talk will think about the ends of critique. Building on our most recent Terra Critica publication *The Ends of Critique* (2022) – crossing the coming to an end of certain critical dispositions with the refusal to give up on critique as a key commitment for work in the Humanities – our talk will address ideas of temporality and time (Thiele) and spatial distance or proximity (Kaiser) which often uncritically underly and drive practices of critique. How do modes of critique transform, if (with Sylvia Wynter) the linearity and sequentiality of critical pursuits of change were challenged? And how do practices of critique morph, if (with Gayatri Spivak) critical intimacy were valued over distance? If one were to consider another spacetime, how does critique come to matter?

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