

THE LIMITS OF TRANSPARENCY

Thinkers' Programme 2017 - Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts

Thinker-in-Residence: prof. Emmanuel Alloa

More transparency! This demand can currently be heard everywhere. Transparency is meant to magically solve most problems of social life in today's democracies and the consensus holds that more transparency is unconditionally positive. Transparency is, however, not simply given, but rather the result of deliberate operations. If transparency exists only as manufactured, there can only be transparency where the manufacturing operations are negated or made invisible, just as the windowpane only works if one sees through the glass and not the glass itself. The thinkers' programme will explore the agenda of transparency in the field of politics, media, aesthetics, optics, architecture, photography, cinema, history of science, philosophy, literature, digital culture.

Symposium What does transparency show? What does transparency hide?

Brussels, December 11-12th, 2017

Scientific committee: Emmanuel Alloa, Herman Parret, Bart Verschaffel

Programme

(Lectures 35' + 10' discussion)

Monday December 11th

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| 14.00-14.15 | Welcome |
| 14.15-14.30 | Opening by
Bart Verschaffel , UGent, KVAB
Emmanuel Alloa , University of St.Gallen |
| 14.30-16.00 | Claus Pias , Institute for Culture and Aesthetics of Digital Media (ICAM), Leuphana University in Lüneburg, Germany
David Heald , The Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow |
| 16.00-16.15 | <i>Break</i> |
| 16.15-17.45 | Dorota Mokrosinska , Institute of Philosophy, Leiden University
John Pitseys , Centre de recherche et d'information sociopolitiques (CRISP), Université catholique de Louvain (UCL) |
| 17.45-18.00 | <i>Break</i> |

- 18.00 Keynote lecture by **Emmanuel Alloa**, University of St.Gallen, Zwitserland
Response by **Philippe Van Parijs**, Faculty of Economic, Social and Political Sciences of
the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL)
- 20.00 *Conference diner*

Tuesday December 12th

- 9.30-11.00 **Patrick Vandermeersch**, Groningen University
Barbara Carnevali, EHESS, Paris
- 11.00-11.15 *Break*
- 11.15-12.45 **Antonio Somaini**, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3, co-director of LIRA
(Laboratoire International de Recherches en Arts)
Christoph van Gerrewey, EPFL Lausanne, Switzerland
- 12u45-14.00 *Lunch Break*
- 14.00-15.30 **Sara Guindani**, Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme, Université de Paris 8
Herman Parret, Higher Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven
- 15.30-15.45 *Break*
- 15.45-16.45 **Antoinette Rouvroy**, FNRS, Research Centre Information, Law and Society University
of Namur
- 16.45-17.00 *Concluding remarks*
Emmanuel Alloa
- 17.00 *Artist Talk*
Thomas Hirschhorn
- 18.00 *Reception*