



University of  
Zurich <sup>UZH</sup>

# UZH-i Public Lectures

## Seeing and understanding the world differently

Spring Semester 2023

# Seeing and understanding the world differently

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02.03.2023

## **The nature of “reality”: structure of matter and space-time orders**

Florencia Canelli (University of Zurich), Michael Esfeld (University of Lausanne),  
Chien-hsing Ho (Academia Sinica, Taipei)

Moderation: Justin Holder (University of Oxford)

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09.03.2023

## **Rationality and reasons**

Birgit Kellner (Austrian Academy of Sciences), Anne Meylan (University of Zurich)

Moderation: Raji C. Steineck (University of Zurich)

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16.03.2023

## **Pragmatic world interpretation in social settings**

Makoto Katsumori (Akita University), Norman Sieroka (University of Bremen),  
Andreas Thier (University of Zurich)

Moderation: Dawid Rogacz (Adam Mickiewicz University Poznań)

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23.03.2023

## **Religious experience in representation and narrative**

Martin Lehnert (LMU Munich), Jens Schlieter (University of Bern), Konrad Schmid (University of Zurich)

Moderation: Henry Albery (Ghent University)

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30.03. 2023

## **Modifying the self and object-perception**

Jens Schlieter (University of Bern), Clifford Saron (UC Davis College of Letters and Science),  
Manos Tsakiris (Royal Holloway University of London)

Moderation: Grzegorz Polak (Marie Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin)

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20.04.2023

## **How the mind produces “objects”: object-centered vs. relational models of cognition**

Ching Keng (National Taiwan University, Taipei), Thomas Metzinger (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz), Klaus Oberauer (University of Zurich)

Moderation: Juen Chien (LMU Munich)

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27.04.2023

**Concept formation and language categories: Objects or relations?**

Balthasar Bickel (University of Zurich), Alexis Hervais-Adelman (University of Zurich),  
Raji C. Steineck (University of Zurich)

Moderation: Rafael Suter (University of Zurich)

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04.05.2023

**Representation and non-representation in the visual arts**

Victor Fan (King's College London), Markus Klammer (University of Basel)

Moderation: Polina Lukicheva (University of Zurich)

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11.05.2023

**Rhythmus und Raum: Dimensionen ästhetischer Erfahrung (in German)**

Heiko Hausendorf (University of Zurich), Winfried Menninghaus (Max Planck Institute for  
Empirical Aesthetics, Frankfurt)

Moderation: Wolfgang Behr (University of Zurich)

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25.05.2023

**Fluid identities in activism and aesthetics**

Chia-Ju Chang (Brooklyn College, CUNY, New York), Prasenjit Duara (Duke University),  
Brandon LaBelle (The Listening Biennial), Jia Tan (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Moderation: Andrea Riemenschnitter (University of Zurich)

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01.06.2023

**Mapping and modelling behaviours and economies**

Carlos Alós-Ferrer (University of Zurich), Steven Sloman (Brown University)

Moderation: Andrea Bréard (FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg)

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Thursday, 6.15 to 8.00 pm

University of Zurich, City Campus  
Rämistrasse 71  
Room: KOL-F-104

Entrance free of charge  
All information subject to change  
[www.uzh.ch/public-lectures](http://www.uzh.ch/public-lectures)

# UZH–i Public Lectures

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## Seeing and understanding the world differently

Research on human cognition typically assumes that human beings experience, categorize and model the world in terms of objects. Just like classical Western logic, most philosophical and empirical conceptions of the world and the self rely on object-centered categorization frameworks as well. While this may seem to be a rather detached theoretical observation at first sight, some very fundamental ideas about the world crucially depend on it.

Conducted in the form of moderated panel discussions, individual sessions of the series will be devoted to theories of time and space, cognition, action, perception, language, art, aesthetics, society and self, developed in physics, philosophy, religious studies and several other fields that work on "alternative", often relational models of understanding the world. Such approaches have been developed, e.g., in many varieties of traditional Asian Buddhism, but also in some branches of cognitive science or iconic criticism, which increasingly move away from the predominantly object-centered approaches that still dominate in "the West". Juxtaposing perspectives from the past with modern systems of knowledge, this lecture series will present a scientific conversation between historically oriented, theoretical and empirical fields, working on different aspects of human thought, perception and behaviour.

The lecture series is organized with the support of the NOMIS Foundation.

### **Hosted by:**

Commission UZH Interdisciplinary (UZH-i)

### **Organized by:**

Wolfgang Behr, Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies, University of Zurich

Polina Lukicheva, Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies, University of Zurich

### **Contact:**

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