

Blue Animal Aesthetics

Organized by
Martin Ullrich, Hochschule für Musik Nürnberg
Jessica Ullrich, Kunstakademie Münster
Tabea Sabrina Weber, Universität Bielefeld

Program

Karl-Grillenberger-Straße 3a, 90402 Nürnberg (nearest subway station „Weißer Turm“)
KGS 06 (Seminarraum)

Wednesday, 22 October 2025

12.30-13.00 ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION

13.00-13.30 INTO THE BLUE: WELCOME NOTES

Jessica Ullrich, Martin Ullrich, and Tabea Sabrina Weber (Conference Organizers)
Rainer Kotzian (President, Nuremberg University of Music)

13.30-15.00 Panel I: BLUE EMPATHY

Chair: Martin Ullrich

Eva Meijer: Creating new water languages for, with and about fishes
Joeri Verbesselt: Feeling-with Fish, Feeling-with Ancestors: Toward a North Sea Aesthetics of Re-Existence
Sune Borkfelt: Teaching with Seagulls and Mermaids: Reflections on Using Critical Animal Pedagogies in a Coastal Town

15-15.30 Coffee Break / Kaffeepause I

15.30-17 Panel III: BLUE ANIMAL TECHNOLOGIES

Chair: Alexandra Böhm

Magdalena Grüner: Slippery Pictures, Submerged Epistemologies: The Muddling Potential of Painting Under Water
Zeynep Abes/Ellie Schmidt: Submerged Archives
Victoria Mummelthei: Crabs, Slugcats, and Sideways Thinking: Following Animals at the Water's Edge in Digital Games

18.30 CONFERENCE DINNER

Thursday, 23 October 2025

09.00-11.00 Panel IV: BLUE ANIMALS IN LITERATURE

Chair: Tabea Sabrina Weber

Emma Crossey: Virginia Woolf: Coral Entanglements
Sophie Elzière: 'Among the creatures of light, creatures of light': The blue ecopoetics of Ted Hughes's *River* (online)
Alexandra Böhm: Are Sea Animals Grievable? Literature and Art in the Face of Extinction.
Mohammed Afsal: Blue Animal Aesthetics: Marine Life, Agency, and Fiction in the Anthropocene

11.00-11.30 COFFEE BREAK II

11.30-13.00 Panel V: CONTEMPORARY ART: BLUE THEORIES

Chair: Jessica Ullrich

Pandora Syperrek: Mama Octopus: Making Kin AND Babies in the Chthulucene
Dorothee Fischer-Kuklau: Axolotl auf Augenhöhe? Wasserlebewesen in Aquarien der
Gegenwartskunst
Julia Katharina Thiemann: Von tentakulärem Denken zu Bodies of Water

13.00-14.30 Lunch Break / Mittagspause

14.30-16.00 Panel VI: CONTEMPORARY ART: BLUE PRACTICES

Chair: Jessica Ullrich

Hartmut Kiewert: Neue aquatische Räume und das Ende der Fischerei-Industrie
Nicole Schuck: Die Kleinsten gerade noch sichtbaren. Makrozoobenthos in der Elbe, in den
Spreewaldfließen und im Bodensee
Denise Ackerl: Mermaiding and More: Performing Eco-Futures with Nonhuman Prosthetics

16.00-16.30 COFFEE BREAK III

16.30-18.30 Panel VII: MUSICS OF BLUE ANIMALS

Chair: Martin Ullrich

Jafar Aghabaramnia Goudarzi: Water and Myth in Mazandarani Songs: A Mythological
Reading of Aquatic Events
Janet Sit/Betlem Pallardó: Echoes in Elsewhere: Marine Acoustemologies and the Aesthetics
of More-than-Human Futures
Wouter Capitain: Symphonies of the Deep: Humpback Composers and the Colonial Politics
of Listening
Alex South: Musicking with, or musicking alongside, the sounds of another species? Between
indifference and disinterest

Friday, 24 October 2025

08.30-09.30 Panel VIII: BLUE SYMBOLISM

Chair: Robert Bauernfeind

Cortney Anne Berg: Medieval Aquatic Resistance: The Animal Hybrids at St. Martin's
Church in Zillis
Yufei Guo: Korallen in barocken Apothekenfresken: im Kontext von Glaube, Heilkunst und
maritimer Globalität

09.30-10.00 Coffee Break / Kaffeepause IV

10.00-11.00 Panel IX: SHARK

Chair: Tabea Sabrina Weber

Robert Bauernfeind: Watson und die Folgen: Bilder und Ästhetiken von Mensch-Hai-
Interaktionen von Copley bis Dua Lipa
Stephanie Lotzow/Peter Podrez: Bloody Animal Aesthetics – Hai-Horror und die Konflikte
um marine (Lebens-)Räume

11.00-11.30 OUT OF THE BLUE: WRAP-UP/FAREWELL

Jessica Ullrich, Martin Ullrich, and Tabea Sabrina Weber