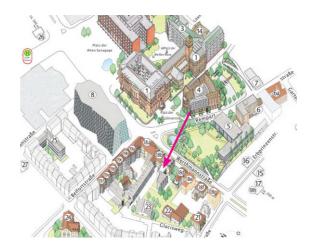
The Heroic, Media and Affect

Entanglements in Fictional Forms and Everyday Life

Apart from being many other things, heroes are communicative constructions. They come into being via the ascriptions, descriptions, and especially the evaluations of various kinds of publics. In this sense, the heroic can be described as a specific effect of communicative acts. As such, heroes fulfil various social roles, from the shaping of identity to figurations of a certain set of values. Today, "heroes" are often icons that stand in as figures creating representational space for minorities in a reality in which nothing "really" exists if it is not mediated. But heroes and heroizations also have surplus effects which reach beyond the communicative: because of their cultural capital concerning the identity of selves and groups, antagonistic framings of "good" and "evil", or moral values, heroes and heroizations are affecting and create affects. We celebrate "our hero" out of a "gut feeling" rather than (purely) rational reasons, and "celebrating our hero" together - in offline and online groups - seems to be contributing to the creation of communities. In which ways is the high affect potential of heroic figures constructed or exploited in contemporary media forms? In which modalities does it confront us? The workshop will explore these questions with examples from television, social media, fiction, drama, and video games.

Organized by the collaborative work group 7 "Mediality" and project group D15 "The Heroic in 21st-Century British Television Series: Discourses and Aesthetic Strategies of a Popular Medium".



Workshop Venue

Werthmannstraße 8, back building Großer Sitzungssaal (1st Floor) 79098 Freiburg

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Collaborative Research Centre 948 | Workshop

The Heroic, Media and Affect Entanglements in Fictional Forms and Everyday Life

14–15 December 2018
Werthmannstraße 8, back buildin

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Friday, 14 December Werthmannstraße 8, back building

9:00 | **Welcome and Introduction** Nicole Falkenhayner (Freiburg, G)

Panel 1: What Do We Medially Construct as Heroic Affect – and Why?

9:20 | Alene I Vildmarken – Heroes on Reality TV?

Anne Jerslev (Kopenhagen, DK)

10:10 | **Heroic Affect is Not Innocent** Benjamin van Tourhout (Leuven, B)

11:00 | Coffee Break

11:20 | "What Does It Feel Like to Be the Hero?" Affect and Heroics in *Detroit:* Become Human (2018) and Horizon: Zero Dawn (2017)

Nicole Falkenhayner (Freiburg, G)

12:10 | Lunch

Panel 2: Aesthetics, Affect and the Heroic

13:00 | Heroic Affect and the Sublime on Contemporary British Television: Beowulf and the Last Kingdom

Barbara Korte (Freiburg, G)

13:50 | Discovering New Dimensions: Affect and the Heroic in *Doctor Who*

Maria-Xenia Hardt (Freiburg, G)

14:40 | Coffee Break

15:00 | Between Marilyn and Snow White, Celebrity and Myth. The Female Prototype in the Postmodern Theatre Work of the Belgian Playwright Paul Pourveur

Geert Kestens (Leuven, B)

Panel 3: The Heroic, the Political and Mediatized Affect

15:50 | Ecothriller Heroics. Disaster, Affect and Spectatorship in Fictions of Climate Change

Christiane Hansen (Koblenz-Landau, G)

19:30 | Dinner

Saturday, 15 December Werthmannstraße 8, back building

From 9:15 | Coffee

Panel 3 (continued): The Heroic, the Political and Mediatized Affect

9:30 | "(No) Fauda/(No) Chaos": Affective Immersion and Heroism in the *Netflix* Series *Fauda* and Its Reception

Michiel Rys (Leuven, B)

10:20 | Play Moods, Heroes of the Resistance and the Fanization of Politics on *Twitter*

Line Nybro Petersen (Odense, DK)

11:10 | Coffee Break

11:30 | Final Discussion

12:00 | Sandwiches and Farewell

