



ICE, ENTROPY AND MEMORY

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE  
BERLIN · 18-20 SEPTEMBER 2013

# ARCHIVES OF THE ARCTIC

Compared to other natural archives, the Arctic is a very special ground, because its main memory medium is not simply earth or stone, but ice. Depending on temperatures under zero, ice seems to be the most vulnerable, the most unstable memory medium of the three; a fact that causes concern nowadays, in times of climate change. This interdisciplinary conference discusses the circumpolar area under an archival perspective. Focusing on ice as a memory medium and a cultural metaphor; scientists, scholars and artists examine the basic problem of the relation between natural and cultural archives. Contributions will elaborate on questions like: How and in what different ways has ice been (implicitly or explicitly) conceptualized as a memory medium? What is the symbolical potential of the "natural archive"? How is it developed in different historical periods and different discourses and genres (science, historiography, fiction, documentary)? And in what sense may the notion of the natural archive help reframe the man/culture nexus?

[www.slawistik.hu-berlin.de/arcticarchives](http://www.slawistik.hu-berlin.de/arcticarchives)



[www.eXzellenz.hu-berlin.de](http://www.eXzellenz.hu-berlin.de)

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# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

## 18 SEP 2013 NORDIC EMBASSIES

- 16.00 **Welcome**
- Susanne **Frank** – Dept. of Slavic Studies, HU Berlin
  - Kjetil **Jakobsen** – Dept. for Northern European Studies, HU Berlin
- 16.15 **Introductory lectures**
- Wolfgang **Ernst** – Dept. of Media studies, HU Berlin:  
*Archival metahistory and inhuman memory*
  - Henrik **Svensen** – Centre for Earth Evolution and Dynamics, University of Oslo:  
*Deep time of the Arctic*
- 18.15 **Reading**  
Vladimir Sorokin
- 19.00 **Drinks & Snacks**
- 20.00 **Concert**  
Karl Seglem & Eli Furubotn  
Scandinavian folk/jazz

## 19 SEP 2013 JACOB-UND-WILHELM-GRIMM-ZENTRUM

- 9.00 • Georg **Töpfer** – Center for Literary and Cultural Research Berlin:  
*On similarities and difference between cultural and natural archives*
- Kjetil **Jakobsen** – Dept. of Northern European Studies, HU Berlin:  
*After nature. Life on ice and the network society in Gabriel Tarde's »Fragment d'histoire future«*
- 10.30 **Break**
- 11.00 • Knut **Ebeling** – Academy of Art Berlin:  
*Photographic archives of the Arctic*
- Trond **Lundemo** – Dept. of Cinema Studies, University of Stockholm:  
*Life Suspended: Film Archives as Cryotechnology*
- 12.30 **Lunch break**
- 14.00 • Susanne **Frank** – Dept. of Slavic Studies, HU Berlin:  
*Siberian permafrost: natural archive of human violence and its semantization in Gulag literature*
- Eivind **Røssaak** – National Library of Norway:  
*Freezing Life: The Erkki Kurenniemi Archive*
- Ulrike **Spring** – Sogn og Fjordane University College, Sogndal
- Johan **Schimanski** – Department of Culture and Literature, University of Tromsø:  
*The Melting archive: The Arctic and the archives' others*
- 16.30 **Break**
- 17.00 • Sabine **Hänsen** – Dept. of Slavic Studies, HU Berlin:  
*The snow field as an archive of Soviet underground performance art*
- Sven **Spieker** – Dept. of Germanic, Slavic and Semitic Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara

- Marko **Peljhan** – Dept. of Germanic, Slavic and Semitic Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara:  
*The Archives Temperature: Knowledge Production and Distribution in the circumpolar landscapes*
- 19.00 • Emilie **Thomassot** – Centre de Recherches Pétrographiques et Géochimiques, Nancy
- Nastasia **Louveau** – HU Berlin:  
*Geological Archives from the Arctic: How Rocks Record Environmental Conditions of the Early Earth*
- 20.00 **Dinner**

## 20 SEP 2013 JACOB-UND-WILHELM-GRIMM-ZENTRUM

- 9.00 • Peter **Hemmersam** – Oslo school of architecture and design
- Janike Kampevold **Larsen** – Oslo school of architecture and design:  
*Mapping from the ground*
- Anka **Ryall** – Centre for Women's and Gender Research, University of Tromsø:  
*Traces of culture, traces of nature: Hunters' huts in narratives of Svalbard*
- 10.30 **Break**
- 11.00 • Philipp **Felsch** – Dept. for Cultural History and Theory, HU Berlin:  
*At point zero of history: The North Pole as place of origin*
- Kirsten **Thisted** – Dept. of Cross-cultural and Regional Studies, University of Copenhagen:  
*Voicing the Arctic – Bring the Archives Back In!*
- 12.30 **Lunch break**
- 14.00 • Elena **Penskaja** – Faculty of Philology, Higher School of Economics, Moscow:  
*The Arctic in Russian literature from the 1930ies to 1950ies (Pil'njak, Platonov, Vaginov, Lagin, Kaverin)*
- Mandy **Buschina** – Dept. of Slavic Studies, HU Berlin:  
*Venjamin Kaverin's »Two Captains« and the conceptualization of the Arctic as an archive*
- Ursula **Ebel** – University of Vienna:  
*Ways of tracking: Disorder of natural archives vs. stringent mechanisms of arrangement*
- 15.30 **Break**
- 16.00 • Tatjana **Petzer** – Center for Literary and Cultural Research Berlin/University of Zürich:  
*Re-Writing the Tunguska Event: The iced imagination of Jacek Dukaj and Vladimir Sorokin*
- Ulrike **Vedder** – Dept. of German Philology, HU Berlin:  
*From Prague to Greenland: Ice memories in Libuše Moníková's novel »Treibeis«*
- Asako **Miyazaki** – University of Tsukuba, Japan:  
*Encapsulating the memory of the lost: Ice as metaphor in the lyrics of Durs Grünbein and Paul Celan*
- 18.00 **Resumée**
- Susanne **Frank** – Dept. of Slavic Studies, HU Berlin
- Kjetil **Jakobsen** – Dept. for Northern European Studies, HU Berlin
- 19.00 **Dinner**