Creative-Critical

Aesthetic Education and Sustainable Practices
in the Futureproofing of the Humanities

Workshop and Conference, November 9-10, 2026

Organized by
Irina Dumitrescu, Thomas Karshan,
Tim Lanzendörfer, and Maren Michel

CREATIVE
CRITICAL

Program

Sunday

19.00 Opening Get-Together (self-paid)
Gemaltes Haus, Frankfurt-Sachsenhausen (Schweizer Str. 67)

Monday (all events in Casino 1.812)

9.30 Conference / Workshop Opening
Welcome by Heinz Drügh (Speaker, FZhG)
Welcome by Irina Dumitrescu, Thomas Karshan, Tim Lanzendörfer, Maren Michel

10.00 Workshop 1:
"'Apes, Clowns, and Angels: Parody, Pedagogy, and Creative-Critical Teaching"
Led by Thomas Karshan
Respondents: Britta Viebrock, Gabriel Flynn

13.00 Lunch Break

14.00 Workshop 2:
"The Medieval Writing Lab"
Led by Irina Dumitrescu
Respondents: Russell West-Pavlov, Maren Michel

17.00 Keynote: "Inside, Outside, Across, and Dreaming: Approaches to Disciplinary work in Literature, Art and Criticism"
Alexandra Grant

19.00 Roundtable: Creativity, Critical Work, and the University
Alexandra Grant, Gabriel Flynn, Pierre-Héli Monot, Irina Dumitrescu
Moderator: Tim Lanzendörfer

20.30 Late Conference Dinner (self-paid)
Eppstein (Eppsteinerstr. 26)

Tuesday (all events in IG 411)

9.00 Panel 1: Creative Writing, Critical Workers
Russell West-Pavlov & John Kinsella (hybrid). "Writing the Zone: Collaborative Non-Fiction by JK and RWP"
Gabriel Flynn: "What Does Fiction Writing Learn from Reading Adorno?"
Peter Howarth: "The Field of Literary Production: Bourdieu vs. Woolf."

Chair: Thomas Karshan

10.30 Coffee Break

11.00 Panel 2: Impulses: Teachers, Writers, Learners

Britta Viebrock: “Didactics and Creativity.”
Almut Küppers: “Disobedient Teaching as Creative Resistance.”
Heike Schäfer: “Classroom Creatitivity, Unreflected.”
Chair and Respondent: Andrew McCallum

Heidi Liedke: “Critical Hope.”
Christine Lehnen: “Fiction, Non-Fiction, Excellence, and Creativity.”
Rina Soloveitchick: “Creative Critical Research at UEA from a Student’s Perspective.”
Chair and Respondent: Tom Gould

12.30 Lunch Break

13.30 Panel 3: Creativity, Historically

Scott Newstok: “Creativity and Montaigne.”
Gregory Leadbetter: “Coleridge and the Common Roots of the Creative and the Critical”
Pierre-Héli Monot (University of Munich): “On Improvisation.”
Ryan Ruby (Berlin): “Fictional Criticism.”
Chair: Maren Michel

15.30 Coffee Break

16.00 Panel 4: Creativity and Literary Studies

Thomas Karshan: “Intelligence and Invention.”
Thomas Gould: “Close Reading and Creativity.”
Tim Lanzendörfer: “Why This? Literary Studies, Creativity, and the Future under AI”
Chair: Irina Dumitrescu

17.30 Conference Closing (Open Discussion)

19.00 Common Dinner (self-paid)
Demera (Holzhausenstr. 77)