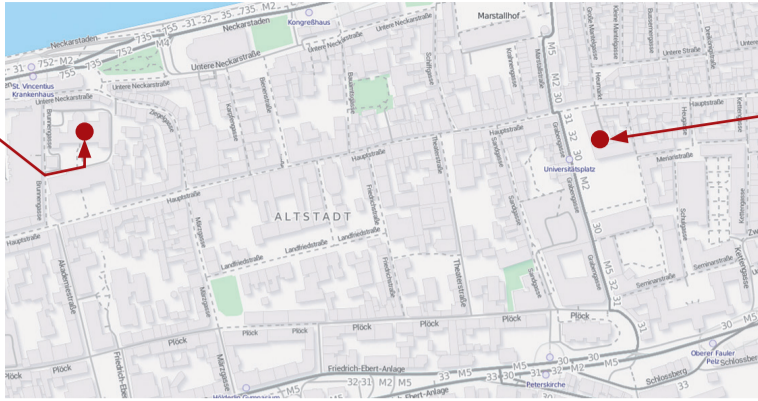


## VENUES



**INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
Lecture Hall II  
Hauptstraße 47-51  
69117 Heidelberg



**ALTE UNIVERSITÄT**  
Aula  
Grabengasse 1  
69117 Heidelberg

## REGISTRATION

The event is free of charge. For organisational reasons we however ask to, please, register in advance via e-mail to [k.lau@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:k.lau@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de) or via mail to:

Katharina Lau M.A.  
Universität Heidelberg  
ZEGK - Institut für Europäische Kunstgeschichte  
Seminarstraße 4  
69117 Heidelberg

### Cover image

Vincent Fournier: General Boris V., Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center (GCTC), Star City, Zvyozdny Gorodok, Russia, 2007 (Courtesy of Vincent Fournier)

With the friendly support of the DFG (German Research Council)

**DFG** Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

## CONTACT

### Convenor

Prof. Dr. Henry Keazor  
E-Mail: [h.keazor@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:h.keazor@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de)

### Liaison Manager

Katharina Lau M.A.  
E-Mail: [k.lau@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:k.lau@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de)



For registration and more information visit <http://www.iek.uni-hd.de/astronauts>



<http://vitruvianastronaut.tumblr.com>

# THE IMAGE OF THE SPACE TRAVELLER IN ARTS AND MEDIA

“We are all astronauts“, the American architect and thinker Richard Buckminster Fuller wrote in his 1968 book “Operating Manual For Spaceship Earth“ where he compared Earth a spaceship, provided only with exhaustible resources while flying through space. The phrase is certainly a hint, which position the phenomenon of the astro- and the cosmonaut had in the public conscience from the second half of the 20th century on. But the wording also seems to have played a significant role itself in shaping the space-exploring human as a symbol and an image of humankind in general. This international and interdisciplinary conference will analyse the changes the image of the space explorer and -traveller has undergone since then (and, which direction with new forms such as the Chinese “Taikonaut“ it might further take) by focusing on the arts and the media as decisive switch points for such conceptions: history, literature-, media-, music-, film and comic studies, history of art and science – all can here provide important contributions for the understanding of these changes as well as of the motivations behind them.



# WE ARE ALL ASTRONAUTS

INSTITUT FÜR EUROPÄISCHE KUNSTGESCHICHTE



UNIVERSITÄT HEIDELBERG  
ZUKUNFT SEIT 1386

THE IMAGE OF THE SPACE TRAVELLER IN ARTS AND MEDIA

HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY  
22 – 25 OCT 2015

THURSDAY, 22 OCTOBER 2015 | 6 P.M.

OPENING LECTURE

ALTE UNIVERSITÄT

Aula, Grabengasse 1, 69117 Heidelberg

Welcome address: Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, Gerrit Kloss

Vivian Sobchack (Los Angeles)

“Rocket Man,” or Lost in Space:  
On Movie Astronauts and the  
Myth of American Exceptionalism

Afterwards: Reception at the “Bel Etage” of the Rectorate



FRIDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2015

9.00 am Henry Keazor (Heidelberg)

**Introduction**

9.45 am Colleen Boyle (Melbourne)

**Through the Eyes of the Astronaut:  
Mediator of the Human Imagination**

11.00 am Umberto Rossi (Rome)

**All We Mad Starmen:  
The Astronaut as a Psychopath**

*Coffee Break*

12.30 pm Ansgar Oswald (Berlin)

**Hero of Progress, Environmentalist and  
Advertising Character: The Image of the Space  
Traveller in the Mirror of Society, Architecture  
and Product Marketing (In German)**

*Lunch Break*

3.00 pm Monica Rùthers (Hamburg)

**The Character of the Cosmonaut  
in Soviet Popular Culture**

4.15 pm Martin Butler (Oldenburg)

**Remembering the Future: Astronaut Memories  
and the ‘Retroification’ of Science Fiction in  
(Surf) Rock Music**

*Coffee Break*

5.45 pm Jörg Hartmann (Karlsruhe)

**“Off structure!” A Metaphorology of Astro-Nau-  
tic Accidents – the Examples of the Space  
Movie “Gravity”**

SATURDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2015

9.00 am Matthew H. Hersch (Cambridge, Mass.)

**Redemptive Space: Duty, Death,  
and the Astronaut-Soldier, 1949–1969**

10.15 am Michael Iwoleit (Wuppertal)

**The Dead Astronaut. The Subgenre of Critical  
Space Flight Stories in the Science Fiction of  
the 1960s and 1970s**

*Coffee Break*

11.45 am Alexander Geppert (Shanghai / New York)

**The Invention of the “Taikonaut”: Images of  
Chinese Space Travellers before and after Yang  
Liwei**

*Lunch Break*

2.00 pm Marc Blancher (Tübingen)

**“Let’s discover Space!” Tintin and Other Cha-  
racters of French-Belgian Comics as Astronauts**

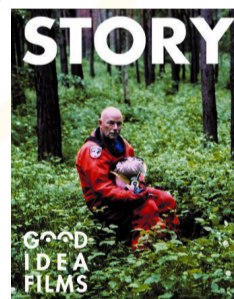
*Coffee Break*

3.45 pm Bettyann Kevles (Yale)

**Artistic Performance in 0 Gravity**

5.00 pm FILM

Dana Ranga,  
*Story – I am a  
Space Person*  
(Germany 2003)



SUNDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2015

10.00 am Nils Daniel Peiler (Frankfurt am Main)

**“But as to whether or not he has feelings is  
something I don’t think anyone can truthfully  
answer”. The Image of the Astronaut in Stan-  
ley Kubrick’s ‘2001: A Space Odyssey’**

11.15 am Thomas Hensel (Pforzheim)

**Astronaut and Avatar: The Outer Space as a  
Space of Experimentation in the Computer  
Game**

*Short Lunch Break*

1.15 am Marc Bonner (Köln)

**“Climb the penrose stairs to merge with the  
infinite”. The Astronaut as the Posthumanistic  
Reverse of Itself**

2.30 pm Closing Remarks

4.00 pm Closure

VENUE FOR THE CONFERENCE DAYS  
INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Lecture Hall II  
Hauptstraße 47-51  
69117 Heidelberg