



Frühjahrsprogramm 2017

Donnerstag, 27. April 2017, 17:15 Uhr
Seminarraum des Forschungszentrums Gotha

Prof. Dr. Graciela Silvestri (La Plata)
Empathy and Distance. Two Forms of Understanding Fluvial Landscapes in Kooperation mit der Laborgruppe Kulturtechniken

Ten years ago, what appeared to be a minor conflict nearly drove Argentina and Uruguay to the point of severing relations: the confrontation between two cities on opposite shores of the Uruguay River in the La Plata Basin over the construction of two cellulose processing plants. The confrontation highlighted environmental concerns: the identification of water as a “scarce resource”, a central topic for South America. It also made it clear that progress and sensitivity to ecological issues do not always go hand in hand. This lecture will analyze a key aspect that was barely considered: the aesthetic perception of the aquatic landscapes. The hypothesis that aesthetic appreciation of the landscape was the spark that ignited a sizeable political event gives center stage to the old notion of *natural beauty*. Related to this issue, and in close relationship with the ways in which we experience, enjoy, transform and represent water landscapes, the lecture will focus on two key notions in the aesthetical reception that inspired its title: *Einfühlung* (*empathy* in the English version) and *estrangement* (*ostraniene* in the original Russian).

Graciela Silvestri is Professor of Architectural Theory at the Universidad de La Plata. Her work, published widely, focuses on landscapes and urban design.

Weitere Informationen:
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