IMPULSES, EXCHANGE, STORY MARKET

INPUT◀▶OUTPUT
07. - 08. APRIL 2025

PROGRAMME

Hosted by: Gerhard Maier

09:30 – 10:00	**OPENING AND KEYNOTE** **Prof. Thomas Schadt** (Managing Director Filmakademie) **Gerhard Maier** (Co-Founder & Artistic Director Seriencamp)
10:00 – 11:00	**FILM & AI – MEDIA PORTRAIT BETWEEN FEAR, HOPE, AND CAUTION** **Dr. Nadine Hammele** (AI, Storytelling & Brand Strategy Consultant), **Matt Szymanowski** (Creative Producer & Founder PLTO) — `Seite 6`
11:00 – 11:30	**NUKE'S COPYCAT – MACHINE LEARNING IN COMPOSITING** **Adrian Meyer** (Visual-Effects-Supervisor, -Artist & -Lecturer) — `Seite 7`
11:30 – 12:30	**PITCHING** Students from the fields of Series and Fiction Film — `Seite 8`
12:30 – 13:30	**BREAK**
13:30 – 14:00	**GENERATIVE AI IN DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING – WHAT IS REAL ANYWAY?** **Théo Rocquancourt** (Creative Technologist & Visual Artist), **Jean Baptiste Krauss** (Creative Director & Image Maker), **Jorge Caballero Ramos** (Researcher & Professor UPF/UAB and Co-Founder of Artefacto Films) (Online) — `Seite 10`
14:00 – 14:30	**THE IMPACT OF GENERATIVE AI IN THE MARKETING INDUSTRY** **Max Penk** (Creative Innovation Director, David+Martin) — `Seite 11`
14:30 – 15:30	**NEW TOOLS IN THE BOX – INTEGRATING AI-POWERED PROCESSES INTO FILM-MAKING** **Théo Rocquancourt** (Creative Technologist & Visual Artist), **Jean Baptiste Krauss** (Creative Director & Image Maker) — `Seite 12`
15:30 – 16:30	**PITCHING** Students from the fields of Series and Fiction Film — `Seite 13`
16:30 – 17:00	**COFFEE BREAK**

Hosted by: Gerhard Maier

17:00 – 18:00	**WRITING & DEVELOPING WITH AI - ANALYTICAL & PRACTICAL TOOLS IN CREATIVE PROCESSES**	`Seite  15`

Remi Tereszkiewicz (Chief Sales Officer of BetaSeries),
Dr. Jenifer Becker (Literary Scientist and Author)

18:00 – 20:00   **BREAK**

20:00 – 20:30	**AWARDING OF FILM FUNDING**	`Seite  16`

sponsored and presented by **LBBW-Stiftung**
Prof. Thomas Schadt (Managing Director Filmakademie),
Stephan Schorn (Managing Director LBBW-Stiftung),
Klaudia Marschner (Team LBBW-Stiftung)

20:30 – 21:30	**THE FINAL FRONTIER OF CREATIVITY? THE ARTIST'S MINDSET IN A TECH-DISRUPTED ENVIRONMENT**	`Seite  16`

Jelena Rosic (Drs, MSc Research, MA Research, MA Film Editing),
Sebastian Strasser (Director)

21:30 - 01:00   **GET-TOGETHER & PARTY**
Filmgalerie (Filmakademie BW)

After many hours of compelling panel discussions and a motley bunch of pichings, we invite you to end the day on a high note by mingling and networking with the other guests and our students and to party on. But make sure you don't miss day two of our symposium!

PROGRAMME

Hosted by: Gerhard Maier

10:00 – 11:00	**BIAS OF POWER – HOW TRAINING DATA SETS BUILD COLLECTIVE IMAGE REPOSITORIES** **Dr. Katrina Sluis** (Head of Photography & Media Arts in the School of Art & Design at the Australian National University, Canberra) (Online), **Jelena Rosic** (Drs, MSc Research, MA Research, MA Film Editing)	Seite 17
11:00 – 11:30	**REGULATING THE WILD WEST? ACTORS & AI UNDER GERMAN LAW** **Tim Kraft** (Lawyer, Lausen & Partner)	Seite 18
11:30 – 12:30	**PITCHING** Students from the fields of Documentary Film and Film Journalism	Seite 18
12:30 – 13:30	**BREAK**	
13:30 – 14:15	**CREATOR ECONOMY OR NEW STUDIO SYSTEM? THE FUTURE OF CREATIVE WORK & BUSINESS MODELS IN THE AGE OF AI** **Elena Lyubarskaya** (Writer / Creator), **Luka Tisler** (Visual AI Specialist / Technical Artist)	Seite 21
14:15 – 15:15	**THE REALITY OF DISRUPTION? – HOW INDUSTRY PLAYERS REACT TO CHALLENGES** **Danilo Pejakovic** (Manager for AI Strategy and Implementation, Leonine Studios), **Jan Diepers** (Managing Director and Producer of Studio Hamburg Serienwerft GmbH), **Nikola Kohl** (CEO south&browse)	Seite 22
15:15	**SUMMARY, COFFEE AND FAREWELL** **Filmgalerie** (Filmakademie BW) To wrap up the symposium, we invite all speakers, pitchers and industry guests to come together for coffee and pastries and a final exchange about the pitch material and panel topics.	

HOW TO USE AI ... AND WHY (NOT)?
// INPUT<>OUTPUT 2025

Since the arrival of DALL-E2 and ChatGPT 3.5 in 2022 the term "Generative AI" has permeated into nearly every nook and cranny of different industries. Though it seems omnipresent in the discussions between hype, hysteria and measured discourse, the impact on different parts of the film industry stay elusive. Between a plethora of new services and tools - some showy proof of concept, some readily integrated in existing software – the possibilities are as dazzling as overwhelming.

In its second edition INPUT<>OUTPUT focuses on first hand experiences from creators, film-makers, technologists, writers, artists and academics to form a clear picture on the promises, perils and concrete use cases of Generative AI. From animation to documentaries to feature film to series, from music videos and commercials to end-to-end AI films or artistic experimentation - the symposium offers an expensive overview of Generative AI in media creation.

Through offering insights into work processes and different approaches to the integration of AI-powered tools into creative expression, INPUT<>OUTPUT explores the mindset, ubiquitous ethical questions and the overarching questions of "how?" and most importantly "why?".

HOST
// GERHARD MAIER

After working in the film and TV industry for over a decade — escorting movies and series through their life cycles by scouting markets and creating press books, articles, and reviews — Gerhard Maier served as editor-in-chief of two of Germany's largest point-of-sale entertainment print publications. Since 2014, Gerhard has put his life-long obsession with TV series to better use as part of the founding trio of Seriencamp, Germany's first festival and conference dedicated exclusively to serial storytelling.

As the artistic director of Seriencamp Festival and Seriencamp Conference, he curates formats, speakers, and topics and leads the festival's programming team. When he is not working on Seriencamp or curating for conferences like the Reeperbahn Festival or Input<>Output Symposium, he serves as a guest lecturer at film schools and training programs like Midpoint with a strong focus on Generative AI and Curation AI on the future of the media industries.

ORGANIZED BY
// FABW

On a unique campus in Ludwigsburg, with the Filmakademie, its own Animations-institut, the postgraduate programme Atelier Ludwigsburg-Paris and the neigh-bouring Academy of Performing Arts, around 450 students receive a first-class education in all relevant trades of film and media production with a broad inter-disciplinary and transmedial network.

The teaching philosophy includes a strong practical focus through more than 400 professionals from the film and media industry, working in mixed teams from the first semester onwards, as well as close contacts in the market with a number of television broadcasters, streaming services and regional film funding. A proof of the concept´s success is a large number of awards, among them 7 Student Oscars© (as of 2025).

An international focus is becoming increasingly important, for example through exchange programmes with renowned partner universities on five continents and a special teaching programme with English-language teaching modules for foreign guest students.

www.filmakademie.de

FILMAKADEMIE
BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

10:00 | FILM & AI
// MEDIA PORTRAIT BETWEEN FEAR, HOPE, AND CAUTION

How does the portrayal of AI in film history influence our perception of this technology? The panel explores the perspectives of leading tech pioneers and the emerging AI film scene in the USA and Europe, opening the discourse on the impact of our perception of AI.

Dr. Nadine Hammele is an expert in storytelling and artificial intelligence. She studied advertising and market communication as well as corporate communication and holds a doctorate in media studies. In her doctoral thesis, she analyzed narrative patterns in films about artificial intelligence and what they reveal about our fears and desires. During her doctorate, she worked at the Institute for Digital Ethics in interdisciplinary research projects on AI and human-centered technology funded by the BMBF. She then worked as a marketing manager at Allianz and in the editorial department at the Walt Disney Company Germany, where she was involved in the production of television and high-end streaming series. She now lives in Munich and works as a freelance consultant for AI, storytelling and brand strategy (www.hammele.eu). As a speaker, she inspires her audience by using storytelling to convey complex topics in a vivid and inspiring way.
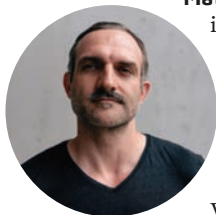
Matt Szymanowski Matt is a filmmaker pioneering AI cinema in Poland and Europe. A Polish-American from Silicon Valley and a recovering Hollywood ad executive, he studied directing at the Polish National Film School, was a Sundance Lab finalist, Berlinale Talent, and MacDowell Colony Fellow, and has collaborated with Volvo, BBC, Netflix, and PwC.

With his AI-driven agency PLTO, he's finishing "Captive Mind", about the last dreamer in a world where dreams are erased by an AI-controlled regime, "A Human Future", a documentary shot in Silicon Valley and Hollywood, following leaders shaping AI's role in society, and "The Envelope", a spy thriller pilot for a hybrid micro-series in Warsaw, blending noir with AI.

11:00 | NUKE'S COPYCAT
// MACHINE LEARNING IN COMPOSITING

An enlightening insight into the current use of machine learning tools used in the VFX sector – and why it is important to have a clear vocabulary when talking about machine learning and artificial intelligence.
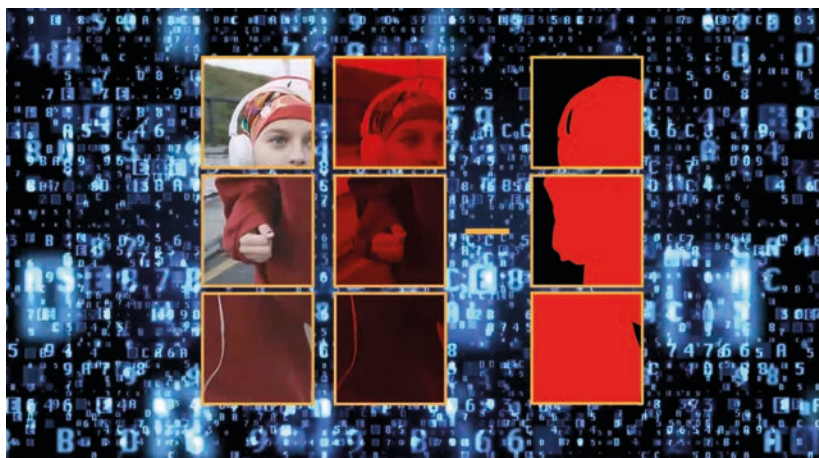
Adrian Meyer works as a Visual Effects Supervisor, Artist & Lecturer. Driven by his passion for creating inspiring and immersive visual experiences, he continuously pushes the boundaries of what is possible using state-of-the-art technology. He has contributed to international feature films, commercials, and XR productions. His works have been showcased at prestigious festivals including the Biennale di Venezia, Cannes, and Siggraph.

For his work as VFX Supervisor on "Die Theorie von Allem", he received the Golden Lola at the German Film Awards and he is a member of the German Film Academy.

11:30 | PITCHING
// SERIES AND FICTION FILM

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1 // "MIT NAZIS REDEN" (AT)

Daniel Popat
mail@danielpopat.de | 0176 - 34 65 91 11

Als ein gutherziger Sozialarbeiter wegen seiner Meinung als Nazi beschimpft wird, stürzt er in eine psychische Krise, aus der es nur einen Weg gibt, sich zu befreien.

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2 // "FLUSEN"

Amar Mehmedovic & Luis Martinson
amarmehmedovic@gmx.at | 0043 65 03 81 80 12
luis.martinson@gmail.com | 0157 - 58 07 20 91

Der Ex-Sträfling Yasin, 29, verkauft mit dem vermeintlich besten Verkäufer der Welt, Herr Labinski, 59, im Tür-zu-Tür-Vertrieb Staubsauger. In jeder Folge begegnen ihnen die Absurditäten des deutschen Wohnzimmers.

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3 // "JAGDSZENEN AUS LIEBERDINGEN"

Jonas Baumann
me@jonasbaumann.com | 0174 - 371 2564

Als die Flüchtlingsfamilie Kamir den Zuschlag für ein Einfamilienhaus in der eigentlich weltoffenen Lieberdinger Kleinstadtsiedlung bekommt, muss sie sich gegen ein wachsendes Ungerechtigkeitsgefühl, Vorurteile und den Unmut der Nachbarn behaupten, um endlich ihr neues Zuhause zu finden.

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4 // "ALTE HEIMAT"

Gabriel Kowak & Darlien Schürmann
gabrielkowak@googlemail.com | 0177 - 44 16 026
darlienschuermann@gmail.com | 0157 - 34 84 16 68

Von ihrer erkrankten Großmutter zurück ins Heimatdorf beordert, müssen sich zwei entfremdete Geschwister all dem stellen, was dort durch ihre Flucht zurückgeblieben ist: eine ungeahnte Vaterschaft, eine skandalöse Affäre und die Enttäuschung ihrer Eltern.

5 // "ZWEI WELTEN"

Leif Eisenberg
leif.eisenberg@icloud.com | 0175 - 61 74 525

Anstatt nach ihrer Elternzeit in ihren alten Job zurückzukehren, entscheidet sich die 22-jährige Leah, ihren Traum von einer Schauspielausbildung an der Otto-Falckenberg-Schule zu verfolgen – trotz der Herausforderungen, die ein Vollzeitstudium mit zwölf-monatigem Kleinkind mit sich bringt. Als junge Mutter aus dem ländlichen Bayern muss sie sich in der Münchner Kunstszene zurechtfinden, ohne sich von ihrem langjährigen Partner zu entfremden und sich an ihre aufblühende Affäre mit einem Schauspielkommilitonen zu verlieren.

6 // "SOHNEMANN"

Leander Behal
behaleander@gmail.com | 0174 - 73 18 707

Ein erfolgloser Trickbetrüger gibt sich als Sohn einer dementen Seniorin aus. Doch anstatt sich von ihm ausrauben zu lassen, versetzt sie ihn in seine längst verdrängte Kindheit zurück.

7 // "LIPPY" (AT)

Anni Joos & Franziska Unger
avboehm@hotmail.de | 0175 - 92 11 121
franziska.p.unger@gmail.com | 0157 - 76 39 13 28

Das unerbittliche Streben einer Anwältin nach Schönheit und Erfolg entwickelt sich zu einer alptraumhaften Besessenheit, die ihre Karriere, ihre Identität und ihren Verstand bedroht.

13:30 | GENERATIVE AI
IN DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING
// WHAT IS REAL ANYWAY?

More and more documentary filmmakers are using generative AI to complement their projects – whether due to a lack of original material, high costs for reenactments, or dangerous filming conditions. The presentation will showcase specific case studies and discuss the ethical challenges as well as practical applications.

Paris-based **Théo Rocquancourt** is a freelance creative technologist and Visual Artist specialized in creating cutting-edge design, direction and moving images. His artistic practice is driven by a continuous exploration of new media technologies, leading to the creation of innovative approaches to visual storytelling and interactive engagement. With a penchant for adapting to new processes and setups for each project, his approach emphasises sensitivity, meaningful outcomes and aesthetically pleasing imagery.

Jean-Baptiste Krauss is a Paris-based creative director and image maker, originally from Stuttgart, Germany. He crafts striking visuals across film, photography, CGI, and AI-generated imagery, bringing a distinctive approach to commercial and experimental projects alike through his creative studio R26B. His work is driven by a deep fascination with the interplay between artistic expression and technical innovation, constantly exploring new ways to push the boundaries of image-making. In addition to his creative practice, he is a speaker at Gobelins, EPSAA, and the Louis Lumière film school, sharing his expertise with the next generation of visual storytellers.

Jorge Caballero (Online) is a multifaceted creator and researcher at the intersection of technology, cinema, and social impact. He holds a Ph.D. cum laude in Cinema and Artificial Intelligence from Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, and directs the Postgraduate Program in Film Algorithms and AI at the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Caballero co-founded GusanoFilms and Artefacto, with productions recognized at Rotterdam, HotDocs, SXSW, DocNYC, and Visions Du Reel festivals. His work has been supported by the Sundance and Tribeca Film Institutes, with broadcasts on ARTE and Discovery Channel. He has twice won Colombia's National Documentary Award and collaborates with the UN on VR projects related to Colombia's peace process.

His latest initiatives include OpenDocs, provide AI tools to documentarians worldwide, reflecting his commitment to expanding documentary storytelling through emerging technologies.

14:00 | THE IMPACT OF GENERATIVE AI
// IN THE MARKETING INDUSTRY

The marketing industry is driving the use of AI, as demonstrated by recent advertising campaigns. The talk will explore how brands and agencies are leveraging AI for innovation.
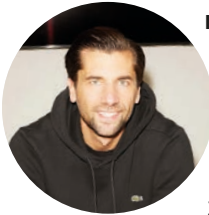
Max Penk, born 1984 in Wiesbaden. After studying computer science + philosophy at the Johannes-Gutenberg University in Mainz, he moved to Ludwigsburg to study Film & Television Production at Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg. Professional stations at NBC GIGA, Axel Springer, MTV Networks. 2010 came to advertising at the commercial film production company e+p Commercial in Munich. 2015 founding member of the advertising film production IT'S US Media in Berlin, where he worked as a creative producer until 2023.

Since 2023: Creative Innovation Director at David+Martin.

14:30 | NEW TOOLS IN THE BOX
// INTEGRATING AI-POWERED PROCESSES
INTO FILM-MAKING

AI opens up new possibilities, but its integration into existing film processes is a key challenge. The panel will showcase current applications and industry experiences.

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15:30 | PITCHING
// SERIES AND FICTION FILM

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1 // "GLATZKÖPFE" (AT)

Sebastian Blin & Marc Zappel
sebastian@blin.at | 0176 - 82 19 90 13
marc.zappel@stud.filmakademie.de | 0173 - 46 37 592

Der elfjährige Fridolin Schott hat einen Gehirntumor. Doch alles, was er will, ist als Drummer in einer Rockband zu spielen! Seine verkrachte Famile muss plötzlich zusammenkommen, um das möglich zu machen, was sie davor nie geschafft haben: Als eine Gruppe zu funktionieren. Zwischen Chemotherapie und Kneipenbühnen kämpfen sich die Schotts durch Stuttgarts verrückte Musikszene.

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2 // "PARAPAPA"

Joshua Neubert, Franziska Unger & Doresa Rexha
joshua.neubert@stud.filmakademie.de | 0171 - 12 93 460
franziska.unger@stud.filmakademie.de | 0157 - 76 39 13 28
doresa.rexha@stud.filmakademie.de | 0152 - 28 89 56 75

Ein orientierungsloser, einsamer Schulabgänger verfängt sich in einer parasozialen Beziehung zu einem charismatischen Streamer, dessen Anerkennung ihn immer weiter von seinen Mitmenschen und der Realität entfernt.

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3 // "DER GUTE TOD"

Gabriel Kowak
gabrielkowak@googlemail.com | 0177 - 44 16 026

Eine frisch ausgelernte Psychiaterin begleitet Patient*innen in einer gewerblichen Sterbehilfeklinik und muss sich dabei den großen Fragen ihrer Arbeit und ihrer unterdrückten Depression stellen.

4 // "I TRY"

Maximillian Gebhardt
maximillian.gebhardt@stud.filmakademie.de | 01590 - 17 48 500

Adam, a closeted gay kid from Kansas, joins a small architecture firm in Copenhagen run by his architecture hero who, to his disappointment, is a shadow of his former self.

5 // "HEARTLESS"

Maj Weidlich
majweidlich@gmail.com | 0176 - 53 79 55 47

Zwei Mädchen aus einem kleinen Dorf verlieben sich ineinander, doch ihre Beziehung wird auf die Probe gestellt, als eine Hexe von den Toten zurückkehrt und sie herausfinden müssen, wie sie den alten Hexenfluch brechen können.

6 // "LUPARII"

Leonard Rottok
leonard.rottok@stud.filmakademie.de | 0178 - 61 23 971

Ein junger Mann, der den Tod seines Vaters noch nicht überwunden hat, schließt sich einem radikalen Männerbund an, der Jagd auf Wölfe macht – doch als ihr Feindbild auf Menschen übergeht, erkennt er die dunklen Motive seines falschen Mentors. Um der Gewaltspirale zu entkommen, muss Jona sich sowohl mit dem Verlust seines Vaters als auch der Akzeptanz einer neuen Vaterfigur auseinandersetzen.

7 // "IXEA"

Jouri David Hoepfner
jouridavidhoepfner@gmail.com | 0174 - 89 79 544

Der Düsseldorfer Fotografiestudent Elio und die in Hongkong geborene Künstlerin Hei Yuan begeben sich, frisch verliebt, auf die Suche nach existenziellen Erfahrungen und dem Ursprung Amerikas auf einen Roadtrip in den Süden der USA.

17:00 | WRITING & DEVELOPING WITH AI
// ANALYTICAL & PRACTICAL TOOLS IN CREATIVE PROCESSES

Creative tools like ChatGPT or industry-specific solutions present both opportunities and challenges. This panel offers insights into useful tools and their application in film and television productions.

With a degree in Physics and a Master's in Economics, **Rémi Tereszkiewicz** has dedicated his career to innovation in the media market. Since 1994, he has held VP or SVP positions in sales and marketing for various companies such as Warner Brothers (2016), Lagardère Studios / Mediawan (2014), Netgem (2004) or Eurosport (1994), leading the creation and launch of numerous premium TV services and xVOD offers. Since 2019, he has been creating marketing and AI sales solutions at BetaSeries to accompany producers and platforms in the growing TV series market. Rémi is also a producer of documentaries and a CMO of the UHD Worldwide Alliance, introducing in Europe new high-impact technologies to enhance the users' audiovisual experience.

Dr. Jenifer Becker is a Berlin-based author, literary scholar and cultural scientist. She writes about the ambivalences of the digital, contemporary phenomena and pop culture. Her debut novel "Zeiten der Langeweile" was published by Hanser Berlin in 2023. She has been teaching at the Hildesheim Literature Institute since 2015, where she completed her doctorate in 2021. In current artistic-scientific projects, she is researching the influence of adaptive technologies (AI) on writing processes.

20:00 | AWARDING OF FILM FUNDING
// SPONSORED AND PRESENTED BY LBBW-STIFTUNG

Since 2006, the Landesbank Baden-Württemberg Foundation has been supporting up to five Filmakademie productions a year with 3,000 euros each. This means that a total of approx. a quarter of a million euros has been invested in promoting talent to date.

These are projects by third-year students of Advertising Film, Film Journalism, Fiction Film, Documentary Film and Extended Directing.

Many successful FABW alumni have received funding in the past, including Neele Dehnenkamp, Timm Kröger and Nora Fingscheidt.

LB≡BW
Stiftung
Landesbank Baden-Württemberg

20:30 | THE FINAL FRONTIER OF CREATIVITY?
// THE ARTIST'S MINDSET IN A TECH-DISRUPTED ENVIRONMENT

Technological innovation has always revolutionized forms of artistic expression. Yet with a new set of AI tools "tech literacy" is becoming an important factor in navigating the landscape and understanding limitations, challenges and impact of tools and services. Broadening the perspective, speakers from various backgrounds of cognitive science, art and music discuss the mindset of creatives and what this means for the future.

Jelena Rosic (NL) is a cognitive scientist with a background in dramatic arts and (new) media studies. She has worked internationally as a film editor and researcher, specializing in naturalistic cognitive neuroscience and human-technology interaction. Her academic work is rooted in the neurophenomenological approach in cognitive science, integrating empirical phenomenological methods, neuroimaging, and computational modeling. Within neurocinematics, she has been developing an optimal methodological framework for combining phenomenological and brain-imaging data. In industry research, she worked on the large-scale automation projects and technology acceptance models.

10:00 | BIAS OF POWER
// HOW TRAINING DATA SETS BUILD COLLECTIVE IMAGE REPOSITORIES

How does the selection of training data influence existing power structures? The panel will discuss who selects the data and how filmmakers can navigate these power dynamics

Dr. Katrina Sluis (Online) is Associate Professor and Head of Photography and Media Arts at The Australian National University. With a background in contemporary art and digital media, she has developed major curatorial projects and published extensively on the 'softwareisation' of photography. Her research interrogates the expanding influence of machine learning in art and visual culture, critically examining how computational systems shape creative labour, cultural institutions, and the politics of representation. In 2023, she initiated "Critical AI in the Art Museum", a project investigating the power structures embedded in AI-driven cultural production. She is currently an ANU co-investigator on the CHCI Global Humanities Institute's "Design Justice AI" project.

Jelena Rosic (NL) is a cognitive scientist with a background in dramatic arts and (new) media studies. She has worked internationally as a film editor and researcher, specializing in naturalistic cognitive neuroscience and human-technology interaction. Her academic work is rooted in the neurophenomenological approach in cognitive science, integrating empirical phenomenological methods, neuroimaging, and computational modeling. Within neurocinematics, she has been developing an optimal methodological framework for combining phenomenological and brain-imaging data. In industry research, she worked on the large-scale automation projects and technology acceptance models.

11:00 | REGULATING THE WILD WEST?
// ACTORS & AI UNDER GERMAN LAW

The collective bargaining agreement for actors and actresses shows how important clear regulations are for the use of new technology. Precise and concrete, it is about creating security on all sides for the use of AI tools. This presentation provides a clear overview with case studies.

Dr. Tim Kraft is partner in the Cologne office of media & technology law firm LAUSEN and has over 20 years of experience in advising the film industry. While still studying, he worked for a world sales, was then in-house lawyer at Kinowelt GmbH (now StudioCanal Berlin) and moved on to become Head of Legal at German TV broadcaster 'SUPER RTL'. In his practice, he is focused on advising media companies on production, distribution, and licensing content, while also being a specialist in IT, data and data protection law.

11:30 | PITCHING
// DOCUMENTARY FILM AND FILM JOURNALISM

1 // "EXORZISMUS HEUTE - VON BEFREIUNGSDIENSTEN UND UNREINEN GEISTERN" (AT)

Emely Sporrer
emelysporrer@gmail.com | 0176 - 78 98 07 03

Exorzismus in der Gegenwart: Das archaische Ritual der Teufelsaustreibung erlebt ein Comeback. Zwischen religiösem Glauben, umstrittenen Praktiken und der Wissenschaft wirft dieser Film einen differenzierten Blick auf das sensible Spannungsfeld des modernen Exorzismus und die Perspektiven der Beteiligten. Welche Wirkung hat das Ritual – und wie sind Dämonenglaube und medizinische Aufklärung in der heutigen Gesellschaft vereinbar?

2 // "ABFAHRT VERPASST?" (AT)

Johannes Hör
johannes.hoer@stud.filmakademie.de | 0178 - 51 70 843

Ist der Wohlstand des Stuttgarter Raums durch die Abwanderung der Automobilindustrie in Gefahr? Was tun Mercedes und Porsche für einen Erhalt der örtlichen Wirtschaft? Droht ein Detroit 2.0?

3 // "DIE ATLANTISCHE ROUTE - MIGRATION AUF EUROPAS AUSSENPOSTEN"

Leon Scheffold
leon.scheffold@stud.filmakademie.de | 0178 - 45 53 717

In den letzten Jahren fand die Migration von Westafrika nach Europa hauptsächlich über das Mittelmeer statt. Doch seit einigen Jahren wird die atlantische Migrationsroute, die von Gambia, Senegal, Mauretanien oder der West-Sahara über den Atlantik zu den Kanarischen Inseln führt, immer häufiger genutzt. Gleichzeitig ist sie eine der gefährlichsten Migrationsrouten der Welt: Strömungen, die raue See und fehlende Technik sorgen immer wieder für Tragödien auf dem Meer. Laut der Organisation Caminando Fronteras könnten im Jahr 2024 bis zu 9.800 Menschen auf der Route gestorben sein.

4 // "PLANT A CORAL" (AT)

Juno Latscha
juno.latscha@stud.filmakademie.de | 0157 - 80 82 12 00

Korallen schützen und wieder aufforsten an der Küste Portugals, das hat sich das Team von „plant a coral" zur Aufgabe gemacht. Dafür forschen die Meeresbiologinnen und -biologen an resistenten Korallen, hegen und pflegen Korallengärten im Atlantik und arbeiten mit den lokalen Fischern zusammen, um die Artenvielfalt unter Wasser zu beschützen.

5 // "CHERNOZEM"

Jouri David Hoepfner
jouridavidhoepfner@gmail.com | 0174 - 89 79 544

In „Chernozem" werden die Auswirkungen vergangener und aktueller Kriege am Beispiel dreier pensionierter Soldaten in der Ukraine beleuchtet.

6 // "IRGENDWIE GEHT'S IMMER" (AT)

Fiona Quint
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Ein Dokumentarfilm, der die Herausforderungen von Frauen beleuchtet, die ihrem anspruchsvollen Traumberuf nachgehen und Kinder haben. In einer Welt voller Kreativität, aber auch starrem Systemdruck, beweisen sie sich als Filmemacherinnen, zeigen jedoch auch, dass jedes Projekt emotional und logistisch eine große Herausforderung für sie und die Familie bedeutet. Zwei sensible Beobachtungen zeigen das Leben zweier moderner Frauen, die an ihren Träumen festhalten und dafür viel Anstrengung in Kauf nehmen, um Kinder und Karriere zu vereinen.

7 // "MILLIONS MISSING" (AT)

Jonas Ganslmeier
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Millionen von Menschen weltweit sind aufgrund von ME/CFS aus dem gesellschaftlichen Leben verschwunden – einer chronischen, schwächenden Krankheit, die oft missverstanden und ignoriert wird. Dieser Film erzählt die Geschichten der Betroffenen, beleuchtet die wissenschaftlichen Hintergründe und zeigt, warum ME/CFS trotz seiner dramatischen Auswirkungen kaum erforscht ist. Inmitten eines weltweiten Anstiegs der Erkrankungen, insbesondere nach der COVID-19-Pandemie, stellt der Film die Frage: Warum bleibt diese Krankheit unsichtbar?

8 // "ALPTRAUM NACHT" (AT)

Eva-Maria Schauer
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In Deutschland leiden immer mehr junge Menschen an Schlafstörungen. Die Auslöser dafür sind vielfältig und meist psychisch bedingt. Welche Hoffnungsschimmer am Horizont gibt es für Betroffene? Der Film begleitet Celine und Anouk auf ihrem Weg aus dem Alptraum Nacht.

13:30 | CREATOR ECONOMY OR
NEW STUDIO SYSTEM?
// THE FUTURE OF CREATIVE WORK & BUSINESS MODELS IN THE AGE OF AI

Which business models can emerge through AI?
The panel explores opportunities and risks for producers, filmmakers, and writers in leveraging new technologies.

Elena Lyubarskaya is a co-founder of The Dream Room - an IP development and production company, based in Berlin. She is a creative producer and writer with more than 15 years of experience in the media industry. After performing a role of Transmedia producer for the award-winning project "Dau" in London, UK, Elena has moved to Germany and made a name for herself as a creator of TV Series. Her "Pauline" (produced by BTF) is currently running on Disney+ Germany, and her next series - "The City of Blood" is in post-prduction. Despite of her work in traditional mediums, Elena and the Dream Room believe that the future of entertainment belongs to new formats of storytelling, especially - AI driven. The Dream Room's First AI-powered project - The Place Beyond, co-produced with Parallell Cinema, France - has been selected for the CPH:DOX Lab and is currently in pre-production.

Luka Tisler is a generative AI creator, researcher, educator, and content creator specializing in visual AI tools like Stable Diffusion and AI video.
He is the co-founder of Lighthouse AI Academy, where he teaches AI applications in creative and professional fields.
With 15 years of experience in video post-production and motion design, he combines traditional expertise with cutting-edge AI techniques.
Luka develops innovative workflows, creates educational content, and helps professionals integrate AI into their work, pushing the boundaries of AI-driven creativity.

14:15 | THE REALITY OF DISRUPTION?
// HOW INDUSTRY PLAYERS REACT TO CHALLENGES

How do established players respond to technological disruptions? The panel examines the strategies of major industry companies through concrete case studies.

As AI Strategy Manager at LEONINE Studios, **Danilo Pejaković** leads the implementation of artificial intelligence in the media sector. His academic career combines a diploma in production and media economics at the HFF Munich and a master's degree in media informatics at the LMU. He gained his practical expertise in media production as a producer and managing director of Sova Pictures during his studies. As a developer at Bayerischer Rundfunk, he drove forward projects in the field of synthetic media with a focus on generative AI. This combination of creative media production and technological innovation now characterizes his work at LEONINE Studios.

Nikola Kohl, Managing Director of south&browse, leads the company with a passion for innovative, visually stunning productions and a clear vision for the future of the media industry.
south&browse produces first-class programs in the fields of documentary, reportage, infotainment and factual entertainment for a large number of German TV stations and streaming platforms. Specializing in high-quality documentaries and documentary series, the company uses state-of-the-art technologies to create visually fascinating and in-depth content formats. Its clients include ZDF, ARTE, ARD, ZDF Info and RTL, ProSieben, Joyn.

Jan Diepers has been Managing Director of Studio Hamburg Serienwerft GmbH, which specializes in high-volume productions and international co-productions, since January 2021. As a producer, he is responsible for the ARD daily novel "Rote Rosen", which was significantly modernized both in terms of content and technology under his leadership. Diepers has extensive experience in the production of daily series and international co-productions, such as the award-winning political comedy "Parlament" and the Slovakian daily "Oteckovia". His professional career includes significant positions at Bavaria Film, Filmpool, CME and UFA Serial Drama, where he was involved in the development and production of well-known series such as "Gute Zeiten, schlechte Zeiten" and "Alisa - Folge Deinem Herzen".

In addition to his work as a producer, Diepers is involved in the training of new talent and promotes initiatives for further education in the media industry.

// INPUT<>OUTPUT 2025

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Video coverage of the symposium will subsequently be available on the YouTube channel "Inside FABW":