

MAKE/SENSE PhD Programme

PhD Supervisors at the FHNW Academy of Art and Design in Basel

Prof. Dr. Claudia Mareis is an expert in Design Studies as well as Cultural History and Theory. She also has a practical background in Graphic Design. Since 2013 she has been a professor at the FHNW Academy of Art and Design in Basel, where she founded the Critical Media Lab and the Institute of Experimental Design and Media Cultures (IXDM), which she headed until 2021. At IXDM Prof. Mareis has built up a pioneering interdisciplinary research group converging design, media arts, anthropology, sociology, historical studies, and technology. Since 2021 she serves as a professor at Humboldt University of Berlin for Design and History of Knowledge, where she also co-directs the Cluster of Excellence »Matters of Activity. Image Space Material«. (<https://www.matters-of-activity.de/en/>) Her research focuses on 20th-century design theory and methodology, knowledge cultures in design, the cultural history of creativity, experimental design and media practices, design criticism, as well as the entanglement of discourses related to design, crisis, and uncertainty management. She has published extensively on design-related issues and organized numerous international design research conferences. She is currently leading an interdisciplinary SNSF research project on Governing through Design at the FHNW Academy of Art and Design in Basel. This project engages with the contemporary debates on the effects of the Anthropocene and seeks to confront global solutions with in-depth studies of local projects and processes. Together with international scholars, she is a project leader and a principal investigator respectively in the collaborative Projects Material Form Function and Symbolic Material at the Cluster of Excellence »Matters of Activity« at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Being a board member of several leading design research associations in Germany and Switzerland, Prof. Mareis is particularly well-connected within the field of design research. She has been serving as vice-president of the Swiss Design Network from 2016 to 2020. She is also a board member of the German Association for Design Theory and Research since 2008. From 2018 to 2021 she has represented the field of design and artistic research as a member of the National Research Council of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).

Prof. Matthias Böttger Architect BDA and curator studied architecture and urban development in Karlsruhe and London. His scientific work began at the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, followed by the University of Stuttgart and the ETH Zurich, where he taught art and architecture. From 2012 to 2017 he was professor for Sustainable Architecture + Future Tactics (SAFT) and head of the Institute for Space and Design at the University of Art and Design Linz. Since 2017 head of the institute HyperWerk/Prozessgestaltung and professor at the Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst HGK FHNW in Basel. In 2008 Matthias Böttger was, together with Friedrich von Borries, Commissioner General and curator for the German contribution "Updating Germany - 100 projects for a better future" at the XI International Architecture Biennale in Venice. Since 2011 Matthias Böttger is Artistic Director of the German Architecture Centre DAZ in Berlin. In 2013 he was curator of the German contribution "Nôs Brasil! We Brazil!" at the X. Bienal de Arquitetura de São Paulo. With his office raumtaktik he has been working on spatial enlightenment and intervention since 2003. He is concerned with the conditions of production of space, with the cultural, economic and political parameters that determine the design of the lived environment. Themes such as globalisation, migration, economic and ecological transformation and the activation of urban space are the focus of his work. Since 2016 he has been a partner in urbane-gestalt, working in the fields of landscape architecture, architecture and urban development. His most recent publication is "Spekulationen Transformationen. Reflections on the future of Germany's cities and regions".

Born in Spain, **Prof. Chus Martínez** has a background in philosophy and art history. Currently Chus Martínez is the Head of the Institute of Art of the FHNW Academy of Arts and Design in Basel, Switzerland. She has been the Chief Curator at El Museo Del Barrio, New York. She was dOCUMENTA (13) Head of Department, and Member of Core Agent Group. Previously she was Chief Curator at MACBA, Barcelona (2008 to 2011), Director of the Frankfurter Kunstverein (2005–08) and Artistic Director of Sala Rekalde, Bilbao (2002–05). For the 56th Biennale di Venezia (2015), Martínez curated the National Pavilion of Catalonia, with a solo project of filmmaker Albert Serra, and for the 51st edition the Cyprus National Pavilion (2005). In 2014/15 she served as curatorial „alliance“ for the current edition of the Istanbul Biennial (2015); in 2008 served as a Curatorial Advisor for the Carnegie International and in 2010 for the 29th Bienal de São Paulo. During her tenure as Director of the Frankfurter Kunstverein she curated solo exhibitions of Wilhelm Sasnal among others; and a series of group exhibitions including Pensée Sauvage and The Great Game To Come. She was also the founder of the Deutsche Börse Residency Program for international artists, art writers and curators. While at MACBA Martínez curated the Thomas Bayrle retrospective, an Otolith Group monographic show, and an exhibition devoted to television, Are you ready for TV? In 2008 Martínez was the curator of the Deimantas Narkevicius retrospective exhibition, The Unanimous Life at the Museo de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, which traveled to major European museums. Martínez lectures and writes regularly including numerous catalogue texts and critical essays, and is a regular contributor to Artforum among other international journals. Her most recent exhibition The Metabolic Age (MALBA Buenos Aires, 2015–2016) serves as a preamble for a book of the same title she is currently working on.

Prof. Dr. Nicolaj van der Meulen (* 1968) is co-director of the Institute of Aesthetic Practice and Theory at the FHNW Academy of Art and Design. Habilitation with a thesis on image, space and performance in the late baroque sacred space of Zwiefalten. 2010 - 2012 Head of the research project 'Shaping the Future. The image as a generator of innovation' as part of the strategic initiative FHNW. 2009/10 Collaboration with Eikones, the National Centre of Competence in Research NCCR Image Criticism, University of Basel. 2009-2012 Coordination Master's Degree 'Iconic Research and Visual Communication'. 2002 - 2007 Assistant and lecturer at the Art History Department of the University of Basel under Prof. Dr. Gottfried Boehm. 1998-2000 Doctorate with a thesis on the temporality of cubist images. 1990-1998 Study of art history, philosophy, theology and church history, especially in Berlin and Basel. Research in the field of aesthetic practice and design, image theory and historical emphasis in the late eighteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Prof. Michael Renner (* 1961) is head of the Institute of Visual Communication at the FHNW Academy of Art and Design. In addition to projects for the cultural sector and the private sector in his own office, he began working in 1990 at the Basel School of Art and Design in information design, interaction design and methods of design for teaching. His experience in teaching, research and practice is the basis for numerous cooperations with art and design colleges in Europe, USA, Canada, Mexico, Korea and the United Arab Emirates. Since 2008 Michael Renner has been a visiting professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and is responsible for the 'International Master in Graphic Design' as a cooperation project between the University of Design and Art FHNW and the UIC. Michael Renner was a member of eikones, the National Centre of Competence in Research on Image Criticism, from 2005 to 2013. His research interest is the formation of theory from design practice and its feedback into visual communication. He is responsible for the development of the Master's programme 'Visual Communication and Iconic Research' and is a member of the Alliance Graphique Internationale (AGI). After a school-leaving examination in classical languages, he completed his training as a graphic designer at the Basel School of Design. He experienced the digital revolution first-hand at Apple Computer Inc. in Cupertino and at Richard Saul Wurman's 'The Understanding Business' in San Francisco from 1986 to 1990.

Prof. Dr. Jörg Wiesel (* 1964), is co-director of the Institute for Aesthetic Practice and Theory at the FHNW Academy of Art and Design. Study of Theatre and Literary Studies in Munich; Doctorate (Dr. phil.) at the University of Basel; Habilitation at the Freie Universität Berlin; 1986-1988 assistant director at the Schauspiel Dortmund; lecturer, research associate, assistant, lecturer at the Universities and Academies in Kiel, Giessen, Basel and Zurich; Co-founder of the Arbeitskreis zur Erforschung von Rassismus und Fremdenfeindlichkeit (Ev. Studienwerk Villigst and Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung/Bonn); since 2004/05 lecturer at the Academy of Art and Design FHNW Basel; 2005-2010/11 Visiting Professor at Freie Universität Berlin; 2007/08-2013 at the Institute of Fashion Design and the Master Studio Design of the HGK FHNW. Numerous publications on the history and theory of theatre, piracy, intermediality, film, fashion and culinary arts; 2012: third-party expert doctoral thesis University of Passau; research on the topics of cooking/culinary arts, economies of the aesthetic, broadcasting.
List of publications: <http://www.fhnw.ch/hgk/iaep/publikationen/joerg-wiesel>

Prof. Dr. Dorothee King Since 2018 Prof. Dr. Dorothee King is professor and head of the Arts and Design Education department and the Learning Lab Arts and Design at the FHNW Academy for Art and Design. After studying art, design and media in Denmark, Germany and England, Dorothee King earned her PhD from the College of Fine Arts at Berlin University of the Arts. There she served as a researcher and lecturer in the Graduate School and the Art Education department. She has also lectured at Rhode Island School of Design, Providence College; the Interface Cultures program at the University for Art and Industrial Design Linz, Austria; and the Banff New Media Institute, Canada. She was a consultant for the TransArt Institute in New York and has been working as a freelance educator, communicator and coach since 2000. Her transdisciplinary teaching grounds on her ongoing interests in creating intersections in arts, media, making and self realisation. Her areas of specialisation and competence are: ephemeral materials in modern and contemporary art, multi-sensory aesthetic experience, the histories and futures of global art school education, participatory initiatives, curatorial studies, contemporary and modern art history.

Prof. Dr. Shintaro Miyazaki (*1980), is a W1-Professor with tenure track in "Digital Media and Computation" at the Department of Musicology and Media Studies Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. He is at the same time a senior researcher at Institute of Experimental Design and Media Cultures of the HGK FHNW, where he is directing a research project at the interference of commoning, computation and design. 2000-2007 Study of Media Studies, Musicology and Philosophy in Basel and Berlin (lic. phil). From 2007 on doctorate (Dr. phil) at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin while at the same time practicing as an improv-computer musician. Defense of Dissertation on a media archaeology of computing, algorithms and digitality in 2012. 2011-2012 fellow resident (music composition/ sound art) of Akademie Schloss Solitude in Stuttgart, Germany. 2013-2014 postdoc research at University of Basel on the science/media history of cochlear implants. Since 2014 he has been researching/ teaching at the Institute of Experimental Design and Media Cultures of the HGK FHNW. From 2017-2020 he has been the program curator of the Critical Media Lab.