

# Alles bröckelt.

Über das Leben in Ruinen und  
das Reparieren von Infrastrukturen

**17–19 January 2024**

ifk Internationales Forschungszentrum  
Kulturwissenschaften  
Reichsratsstraße 17, 1010 Vienna

**ifk**  
Kunstuniversität Linz  
University of Arts  
Linz



**L-Università  
ta' Malta**

# Conference

## Crumbling Worlds.

Living in Ruins, Repairing Infrastructures

17–19 January 2024

The interdisciplinary symposium, which is enhanced by an artistic program, will deal with contemporary ruination and decay. Ruins have long since lost their solemn serenity. They are also no longer perceived as aesthetically pleasing precursors of impending catastrophe or as a medium for reflecting on ephemerality and transience. Rather, we live in the midst of wars, irreversible climate change, and massive economic and ecological disasters. Ruins are what we live with and by. They are the downside of modernity, of extractivist economics, and the result of the neglect of state institutions. How can we deal with geopolitical processes that create abandoned spaces in one place and crowded centers in others? How should we respond to the collapse of infrastructures we took for granted: Transportation, energy, health services, heating? How susceptible to the ruinous are digital media? In short, what skills for living in ruins do we need to learn?

To participate via Zoom, please register for the meeting with your name and email address.

You can find the links on our website in the calendar entry: [www.ifk.ac.at](http://www.ifk.ac.at)



Wednesday,  
17 January  
2024

ifk  
Reichsratsstraße 17  
1010 Vienna  
and  
ifk@Zoom

- 14:00 **Welcome and Introduction**  
Karin Harrasser, Mathias Fuchs, and Daniel Vella
- 14:30 **Mathias Fuchs**  
Sonic Ruins
- 15:30 **Daniel Vella**  
Ruins and Utopia. Forgetting, Erasure, and Uncanny Enduring
- 16:30 **Coffee break**
- 17:00 **Emma Fraser**  
Between the Material and the Virtual. The Multi-Valent Figure of  
the Ruin in Video Games, Digital Media, and Visual Culture
- 18:00 **Break**
- 19:00 **Total Refusal (Leonhard Müllner)**  
Ruinen bauen / Building Ruins

Thursday,  
18 January  
2024

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- 09:30 **Thomas Macho**  
Dark Tourism
- 10:30 Coffee break
- 11:00 **Paul Dobraszczyk**  
How to Stop Time. Revisiting Varosha
- 12:00 **Dace Dzenovska**  
Neither Ruins, Nor Rubble.  
The Predicament of Soviet Material Remains in Latvia
- 13:00 Lunch Break

Thursday,  
18 January  
2024

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- 15:00 **Orit Halpern**  
Resilient Futures.  
Histories of Ecology, Speculation, and Technology
- 16:00 **Karin Harrasser and Mina Lahlal**  
Conversation about decay and repair of healthcare infrastructures
- 16:30 Snacks and refreshments
- 17:30 **We are Zama Zama (Film, 2021)**
- 18:45 Conversation with filmmaker  
**Rosalind C. Morris**

Friday,  
19 January  
2024

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- 09:30 **Omar N'Shea**  
Fractured Echoes from Bur Mghež.  
The Lives and Ruins of a Limestone Fissure in Malta
- 10:30 **Monika Wagner**  
Ruins. Evidence and Imagination
- 11:30 **Coffee break**
- 12:00 **Katharina Weinberger-Lootsma**  
with Lisa Ackerl, Carlotta Röhl, Leon Schlesinger  
and Paul Paptistella  
postMORTEM
- 15:00 Visit to the Exhibition at »Kunsthalle Wien«  
**No Feeling Is Final.**  
**The Skopje Solidarity Collection**

**kunsthalle wien**

The logo for Kunsthalle Wien, featuring the text "kunsthalle wien" in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font. A thick red horizontal line is positioned below the text, with a short vertical red bar extending downwards from the center of the line.

# Notes

Concept: Mathias Fuchs (Leuphana University Lüneburg), Karin Harrasser (ifk, Vienna / University of Arts Linz), Daniel Vella (L-Università ta' Malta)

Participants: Lisa Ackerl (University of Arts Linz), Paul Dobraszczyk (Bartlett School of Architecture, London), Dace Dzenovska (University of Oxford), Emma Fraser (University of Berkeley), Orit Halpern (TU Dresden), Mina Lahlal (Ärztin), Thomas Macho (Berlin/Vienna), Rosalind C. Morris (Columbia University), Leonhard Müllner (Total Refusal), Omar N'Shea (L-Università ta' Malta), Paul Patistella (University of Arts Linz), Carlotta Röhl (University of Arts Linz), Leon Schlesinger (University of Arts Linz), Monika Wagner (University Hamburg), Katharina Weinberger-Lootsma (University of Arts Linz)

Mit freundlicher Unterstützung der



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