

DFG Tagung

**Looking Through
the Occult:
Instrumentation, Esotericism,
and Epistemology in 19th Century**

14th / 15th November 2013



**Humboldt-Universität
zu Berlin**

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Hauptgebäude – UL 6 2103
(Unter den Linden 6 – Raum 2103)

www.culture.hu-berlin.de/occult

Speaker Schedule each talk around 30 minutes

14 November

9:00 Coffee & snacks

9:30 *Christian Kassung*

Opening Remarks

10:00 *Bernard Geoghegan*

Occult Knowledge and Plain Sight: On the Popular Display of Scientific Wonders

Florian Sprenger

Occult Occultism and the Afterlives of *Actio in Distans*

11:30 *Ehler Voss & Erhard Schüttpehl*

From Medium to Media:
Oliver Lodge's Radio History

Margarida Medeiros

An Historical and Philosophical View on the Purpose of Documenting Non-Observational Matter

15:00 *Robert Brain*

"A Medium is a Medium is a Medium":
Ectoplasm Images, Psychical Research,
and the Futurist Moment

Tessel M. Bauduin

"Modest recording instruments without talent":
Automatism in Surrealism

16:30 First Keynote Address

John Durham Peters

Nineteenth-century Mormonism between angelic visitations and scientific rationality (and other tales of scrambled modernity)

15 November

9:30 *John Tresch*

'Matter No More': Edgar Allan Poe and the Paradoxes of Materialism

Simone Natale

The Spectacular Supernatural

11:00 *Stephan Gregory*

Code und Kontakt. Mythologien der magischen Wirksamkeit

Anthony Enns

Spiritualist Writing Machines

14:30 *Egil Asprem*

Scientific rationalism, occult empiricism?
Representations of the microphysical world, ca. 1900

Petra Löffler

Geister der Stadt. Spektrologie urbaner Räume

16:00 Second Keynote Address

Jeremy Stolow

On Mediumnic Lights, X^x Rays, and the Spirit who Photographed Herself

17:30 Closing discussion



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Looking Through the Occult brings together scholars in media studies, the history of science, and religious studies to consider intertwined developments in media history, occult thought, and technical instrumentation during the nineteenth-century. *This international conference is free and open to the public.*