FRIDAY, 13 JULY 2018

9.30–10.00 ARRIVAL & COFFEE

10.00–10.15 OPENING & WELCOME ADDRESS

Elahe Haschemi Yekani (HU Berlin)
Tavia Nyong’o (Yale University)
Eva Boesenberg (HU Berlin)

PANEL 1: ARTISTIC ARCHIVES AND ARTISTIC RESEARCH

10.00–12.00 CHAIR: Anja Sunhyun Michaelsen (ICI Berlin)

Nana Adusei-Poku (Cooper Union): Performances of Nothingness II: Tracing the Ephemeral Archive
Isaiah Lopaz (Berlin-based artist): Strength in Numbers

12.00-12.30 COFFEE BREAK

12.30–13.30 CHAIR: Cedric Essi (Uni Bremen)

Elahe Haschemi Yekani and Tavia Nyong’o: Critical and Speculative Fabulation and Narrative in Black and Postcolonial Histories

13.30–15.00 LUNCH BREAK

PANEL 2: SHADOW ARCHIVES

15.00–17.15 CHAIR: Kristina Graaff (HU Berlin)

Anne Potjans (HU Berlin): Archives of Abjection: Black Feminist Futurity and Queer Temporality in the Poetry of Wanda Coleman

17.15–18.00 COFFEE BREAK

KEYNOTE

18.00–19.30 INTRODUCTION: Eva Boesenberg
Michelle M. Wright (Emory University)

Entangled Blackness: The Politics of Polyspatial Representations in the Black and African Diasporas

Jasper Verlinden (HU Berlin): Crippling the Colonial Archive: Dis/Entangled Lives and Dis/Abling Bodies of Knowledge
Khary O. Polk (Amherst College/FU Berlin): The Black Homonational Speaks: Perry Watkins, Randy Shilts, and Sounding the AIDS Archives
Recently, interdisciplinary attention in the fields of postcolonial studies, Black studies, feminist studies, and queer studies has turned to the question of “entanglement.” Variously rendered in German as Verflechtung (as used in histoire croisée/Globalgeschichte) and as Verschränkung (as used in quantum mechanics and feminist technoscience studies), entanglement holds both ontological and epistemological relevance. Entanglement promises to reshape archival studies and historiography, bringing to bear the resources of new materialist and eco-critical approaches, fabulation and new narrative approaches, such as surface and other reading strategies that challenge both conceptions of identity as well as linear temporalities and national canons. Entanglement is also meant to highlight the interactions and cross-connections between different diasporic communities.

By using the term shadow archives, we intend to point to a phenomenon that is neither reading with or against the grain, and that does not begin from the assumption that the archive is either “full” or “empty.” Beyond such dualisms, the shadow archive points towards fields of historical potentiality (or virtuality) against the idea of afterwardness/Nachträglichkeit that models such as counter histories or writing back imply. We want to engage with queer temporalities of utopias and spaces in the city that can be directed at both the past and the present, to engage with assumptions of coevality or the yet to come. We seek to name a research agenda that isn’t divided between archive and repertoire, presence and absence, or affective attachment and detachment, subversion or collusion but rather engage with the entangled, queer and messy ways we create meaning today by looking to the past.