

# Museum der Kulturen Basel

MUSEUM TALK SERIES «EXTRACTIVE ZONES», IN ENGLISH, DIGITAL  
(UPON REGISTRATION)

## Immundo: Unspecific Aesthetics and the Arts of Survival

11 November 2021, 18.00–19.30 Uhr | Free entry

With Jens Andermann

What comes at the end of landscape? What would once have seemed a formal question of art-historical re-classification (as in Rosalind Krauss's famous reflections on the 'expanded field') is resonating today with far wider, discipline-defying implications of planetary unworlding. In the face of anthropogenic climate change, the long *dénouement* of the landscape-form in literary and visual modernisms –in particular those of the Global South– has turned out to be the harbinger of planetary becomings that refuse to abide by their accustomed role as natural settings for human action. Instead, what is coming back to haunt us today is the abject, insurgent matter landscape (and extractive capitalism) used to relegate to the other side of the horizon. But as the contemporary extinction-event is unfolding in real, historical time, a new arts of survival is being called for in order to dream up new forms of intra- and inter-species alliance under a shared condition of 'earthwide precarity' (Anna Tsing), of 'becoming-extinction' (Justin McBrien). In this talk, Jens Andermann advocates for, and offers some contemporary examples of, an arts of survival that takes upon itself the risk of unspecificity – not just in terms of mixing genres, material supports and modes of expression between literature and the audiovisual and performative arts but also in those of imagining new kinds of sympoiesis involving human and nonhuman existents.

Jens Andermann is professor at New York University and writes about modern Latin American arts, film, literature, architecture and material culture, and their intersections with legacies of coloniality and extractivism. He is an editor of the *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies* and the author of several books, such as *Tierras en trance: arte y naturaleza después del paisaje* (2018) or *The Optic of the State. Visuality and Power in Argentina and Brazil* (2007, 2014). He taught at the University of Zurich and at Birkbeck College, London and has been visiting professor at universities in Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Berlin, and at Duke, Princeton, and Columbia and his work has appeared in a large number of books and journals.

Please register at [info@mkb.ch](mailto:info@mkb.ch) or +41 61 266 56 00, until the day of the event, November 11th, 12 a.m. latest.

You will receive the Zoom link and Log-in information after registering.

