

**EKfG-Fachgespräch/ Interdisciplinary Research Seminar**

**Representing Sexual Difference in 20th Century Artistic Culture and Society**

**Monday, 12 June 2017**

**09.00 – 12.00 hrs**

**Essen College of Gender Research  
Campus Essen, R12 S06 H01**

**Programme**

09.00-09.15 Welcome and Introduction  
Dr. Maren A. Jochimsen, Essen College of Gender Research

09.15-10.00 *The Sexuality of American Art*

Prof. Jonathan D. Katz, PhD  
Director, Visual Studies Doctoral Program,  
Department of Art, University at Buffalo, USA  
Marie Jahoda Visiting Chair in International Gender Studies  
Ruhr-University Bochum, Summer Term 2017

Art is one of the least studied, but most revealing, archives for nuanced depictions of forms of sexuality that have escaped written description, either because they were illegal, immoral or some combination of the above. In this heavily illustrated talk structured for a general audience, Jonathan D. Katz will address the contested, swiftly evolving paradigms governing same-sex desire as realized in over 100 years of American art. He will concentrate on the very different valence of homoerotic desire – male and female, black and white – in early 20th century America, deploying numerous images to trace key shifts in the cultural construction of queerness up until the present day. In so doing, he will offer an illustrated history of American sexual difference, and some of the key image through which that history was realized.

10.00-10.30 *Discussion*

10.30-11.00 *Beyond Heteronormativity. Queer Perspectives on Gender and Sexuality*

Dr. Lisa Mense  
Social Sciences, University of Duisburg-Essen

The lecture will focus on the simultaneities of a still existing stigmatisation of sexual and gendered diversity on the one hand, and gain in freedom, which has been achieved in the last few years by statutory regulations and which has led to a higher recognition, on the other hand. In a further strand, the current debate in the Queer Studies and LGB Movements in Germany, the entanglements with right wing or racist positions (such as Queer against Muslims), or adaptations to heteronormative expectations of gays and lesbians (registered partnership, etc.) under the keyword homonormativity are discussed.

11.00-12.00 *Discussion*