

The Cluster of Excellence  
**Understanding Written Artefacts**  
at the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC)  
cordially invites you to the workshop

## **Filling Space With(in) Script**

Thursday, 7 November 2024, 9:30 am – 6:00 pm CET

Friday, 8 November 2024, 9:30 am – 4:45 pm CET

Warburgstraße 26, 20354 Hamburg

Organised by Jochen Vennebusch (University of Hamburg)  
and Karin Becker (University of Hamburg)

Registration:

<https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/register/workshop63>

In his 'poesie der fläche' (poetry of the space), Franz Mon describes how the arrangement of writing – for example the 'expansion, nesting, sequencing, jamming, dropping and many other gestural movements' – adds value to the written text. As he states, the 'optical gesture naturally joins the phonetic and semantic – as a supplement, extension, tension, negation.' [1] While Mon only refers to two-dimensional written artefacts, this is also relevant for three-dimensional artefacts with inscriptions, where a haptic dimension is included.

The workshop will focus on the visual organisation of texts, in particular on the conceptual handling of the space between the characters of the main text. It will be investigated whether and with what this space is filled and what status these elements have. Are they pictorial representations, additional texts or purely coloured highlights? Are they merely ornamental or do they have further implications for the 'core text' that expand or interpret the content or transform the writing itself? Additionally, the question of how writing in various written artefacts, and even within architecture, can structure space and influence it beyond the actual content will be explored.

The aim is to identify differences and similarities between the various epigraphic and written cultures on the one hand and between the different categories of written artefacts (manuscripts and inscriptions) with regard to one particular aspect on the other. The workshop will provide a new approach to the question of the significance of space in and around the text and the relation between content, visual organisation and material.

[1] Franz Mon, zur poesie der fläche, in: Eugen Gomringer (ed.), konkrete poesie. deutschsprachige autoren. Anthologie, Stuttgart 2001, pp. 169–176, here pp. 171–172. (transl. by the authors).

## Programme

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### Thursday, 7 November 2024, 9:30 am – 6:00 pm

9:30 – 9:45 Kaja Harter-Uibopuu (University of Hamburg)  
*Welcome*

9:45 – 10:00 Karin Becker (University of Hamburg) and Jochen Vennebusch  
(University of Hamburg)  
*Introduction*

#### The (In)Visibility of Paracontent

Chair: Jochen Vennebusch

10:00 – 10:40 Luise Morawetz (University of Leipzig)  
*Tracing the Invisible World. Finding and Interpreting Scratched Glosses in Medieval Manuscripts*

10:45 – 11:30 Henrike Lähnemann (Oxford University)  
*Visualizing Easter. The Interplay of Text, Colour, Music, and Illustration in the Medingen Prayerbooks*

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee Break

#### Negotiations of Script and Space in Islamic Art and Architecture

Chair: Kaja Harter-Uibopuu (University of Hamburg)

12:00 – 12:45 Jonathan Bloom (Boston College)  
*Filling Space in Arabic Script Epigraphy*

12:45 – 1:30 Sheila Blair (Boston College)  
*Three Strategies for Filling Space in Manuscripts made in the Islamic Lands*

1:30 – 2:30 Lunch

## Arranging and Filling Space in South Asian Manuscripts

Chair: Konrad Hirschler (University of Hamburg)

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| 2:30 – 3:15 | Bidur Bhattarai (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Space, Symbols, Signs and Writings in Nepalese and North Indian Manuscripts</i> |
| 3:15 – 4:00 | Petra Kieffer-Pülz (independent scholar)<br><i>Filling Space With(in) Script in Buddhist Manuscripts</i>                      |
| 4:00 – 4:30 | Coffee Break  |

## Filling Space With Script and the Third Dimension

Chair: Szilvia Sövegjártó

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| 4:30 – 5:15 | Christoph Dartmann (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Inscriptions in Northern and Central Italian Cities (1000 – 1500)</i> |
| 5:15 – 6:00 | Nicole Brisch (University of Hamburg)<br><i>tba</i>  |

## Friday, 8 November 2024, 9:30 am – 4:45 pm

### Arranging (Para-)Texts on the Page

Chair: Thies Staack (University of Hamburg)

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| 9:30 – 10:15  | Matthias Ludwig Richter (University of Colorado at Boulder)<br><i>Translating Time into Space: Mapping Language on to Objects</i>   |
| 10:15 – 11:00 | Sarah Braun (University of Heidelberg)<br><i>How to Arrange Hieratic Script to Fill Space on Papyrus – The Case of Literary Manuscripts from Middle and New Kingdom Egypt</i> |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee Break  |

## Highlighting and Hiding Texts in Prayer Books

Chair: Janine Droese (University of Hamburg)

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| 11:30 – 12:15 | Karin Becker (University of Hamburg)<br><i>The Gloria Patri and Other Texts – How to Fill the Page in Medieval Psalter Manuscripts</i>          |
| 12:15 – 1:00  | Dilshat Harman (University of Göttingen)<br><i>Visualizing the Word: “Shefokh” Initial-Word Panel in Jewish Ashkenazic Manuscript Tradition</i> |
| 1:00 – 2:00   | Lunch   |

## Epigraphy in the Sacred Sphere I

Chair: Karin Becker (University of Hamburg)

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| 2:00 – 2:45 | Erene Morcos (University of Cologne)<br><i>Ὁ κατοικῶν ἐν βοήθειᾳ τοῦ ὑψίστου – The Epigraphic Tradition of Psalm 90 (LXX)</i>   |
| 2:45 – 3:30 | Franziska Wenig (University of Heidelberg)<br><i>Solution by Dissolution – On Gap(fillers) as a Reception Aid in the Late-Antique and Early Medieval Apsis Inscriptions</i> |
| 3:30 – 4:00 | Coffee Break  |

## Epigraphy in the Sacred Sphere II

Chair: Michael Kohs (University of Hamburg)

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| 4:00 – 4:45 | Jochen Vennebusch (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Inscribed Images – Illustrated Inscriptions? The ‘Andreas-Kästchen’ from Siegburg and the Text-Image Relations on Sacred Medieval Enamels</i> |
| 4:45        | Final Discussion / Farewell   |