Alles bröckelt.
Über das Leben in Ruinen und das Reparieren von Infrastrukturen

17–19 January 2024
ifk Internationales Forschungszentrum
Kulturwissenschaften
Reichsratsstraße 17, 1010 Vienna
Conference
Crumbling Worlds.
Living in Ruins, Repairing Infrastructures
17–19 January 2024

The interdisciplinary symposium, which is enhanced by an artistic program, will deal with contemporary ruination and decay. Ruins have long since lost their solemn serenity. They are also no longer perceived as aesthetically pleasing precursors of impending catastrophe or as a medium for reflecting on ephemerality and transience. Rather, we live in the midst of wars, irreversible climate change, and massive economic and ecological disasters. Ruins are what we live with and by. They are the downside of modernity, of extractivist economics, and the result of the neglect of state institutions. How can we deal with geopolitical processes that create abandoned spaces in one place and crowded centers in others? How should we respond to the collapse of infrastructures we took for granted: Transportation, energy, health services, heating? How susceptible to the ruinous are digital media? In short, what skills for living in ruins do we need to learn?

To participate via Zoom, please register for the meeting with your name and email address.
You can find the links on our website in the calendar entry: www.ifk.ac.at
Wednesday, 17 January 2024

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Reichsratsstraße 17
1010 Vienna

and
ifk@Zoom

14:00 Welcome and Introduction
Karin Harrasser, Mathias Fuchs, and Daniel Vella

14:30 Mathias Fuchs
Sonic Ruins

15:30 Daniel Vella
Ruins and Utopia. Forgetting, Erasure, and Uncanny Enduring

16:30 Coffee break

17:00 Emma Fraser
Between the Material and the Virtual. The Multi-Valent Figure of the Ruin in Video Games, Digital Media, and Visual Culture

18:00 Break

19:00 Total Refusal (Leonhard Müllner)
Ruinen bauen / Building Ruins
Thursday, 18 January 2024

Thomas Macho
Dark Tourism

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Paul Dobraszczyk
How to Stop Time. Revisiting Varosha

12:00 Dace Dzenovska
Neither Ruins, Nor Rubble.
The Predicament of Soviet Material Remains in Latvia

13:00 Lunch Break
Thursday, 18 January 2024

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15:00   Orit Halpern
Resilient Futures.
Histories of Ecology, Speculation, and Technology

16:00   Karin Harrasser and Mina Lahlal
Conversation about decay and repair of healthcare infrastructures

16:30   Snacks and refreshments

17:30   We are Zama Zama (Film, 2021)

18:45   Conversation with filmmaker
Rosalind C. Morris
Friday, 19 January 2024

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09:30 Omar N’Shea
Fractured Echoes from Bur Mgħeż.
The Lives and Ruins of a Limestone Fissure in Malta

10:30 Monika Wagner
Ruins. Evidence and Imagination

11:30 Coffee break

12:00 Katharina Weinberger-Lootsma
with Lisa Ackerl, Carlotta Röll, Leon Schlesinger
and Paul Paptistella
postMORTEM

15:00 Visit to the Exhibition at »Kunsthalle Wien«
No Feeling Is Final.
The Skopje Solidarity Collection
Concept: Mathias Fuchs (Leuphana University Lüneburg), Karin Harrasser (ifk, Vienna / University of Arts Linz), Daniel Vella (L-Università ta’ Malta)

Participants: Lisa Ackerl (University of Arts Linz), Paul Dobraszczyk (Bartlett School of Architecture, London), Dace Dzenovska (University of Oxford), Emma Fraser (University of Berkeley), Orit Halpern (TU Dresden), Mina Lahlal (Ärztin), Thomas Macho (Berlin/Vienna), Rosalind C. Morris (Columbia University), Leonhard Müllner (Total Refusal), Omar N’Shea (L-Università ta’ Malta), Paul Patistella (University of Arts Linz), Carlotta Röll (University of Arts Linz), Leon Schlesinger (University of Arts Linz), Monika Wagner (University Hamburg), Katharina Weinberger-Lootsma (University of Arts Linz)