

## Dear International Researchers of the University of Cologne,

The staff of the Welcome Centre of the International Office is happy to present you our current newsletter. Every semester we will provide you with useful information about everyday life on campus and in the city of Cologne, including local and cultural events.



### **Easter** **30<sup>th</sup> March – 2<sup>nd</sup> of April**

Easter is a Christian holiday that celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day after his crucifixion. Easter is the culmination of the Passion of Christ, preceded by Lent, a forty-day period of fasting, prayer, and penance. The last week of Lent is called Holy Week, which contains the days of the Easter Triduum. These include Maundy Thursday (also known as Holy Thursday), commemorating the Last Supper and its preceding foot washing, as well as Karfreitag (Good Friday), commemorating the crucifixion and death of Jesus.

While Maundy Thursday is not an official holiday, Good Friday (30.3) as well as Easter Monday (02.04.) are. Easter customs vary throughout the Christian world, but attending sunrise services, exclaiming the Paschal greeting and decorating Easter eggs are common motifs. Additional customs include egg hunts, the Easter Bunny, and Easter parades, which both Christians and non-Christians follow.

## News



### **The International Office at the SSC**

The International Office is located in the Students' Service Center (SSC) Universitätsstr. 22a, 50937 Köln. You will find us on the first floor in room no. 1.210 / 1.211 during our office hours:  
Monday: 9am – 12pm  
Tuesday: 9am – 12pm  
Wednesday: closed  
Thursday: 9am – 12pm  
Friday: 9am – 12pm or by appointment.

### **Extending your stay**

In order to take full advantage of our services and receive all the information you need, we kindly ask you to inform us if you extend your stay. It is important we have this information in order to keep you updated on any events, and to avoid removing your name from our mailing list. Therefore, we kindly ask you to send us an email if the duration of your stay is changed.



## Upcoming Holidays in May and June

### International Workers' Day

The first holiday in May is the 1<sup>st</sup> of May: International Workers' Day (also known as May Day) is a celebration of the international labour movement. May 1<sup>st</sup> is a national holiday in more than 80 countries, including Germany.

### Christi Himmelfahrt

The second holiday, Christi Himmelfahrt, takes place shortly thereafter on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May. The Feast of the Ascension commemorates the bodily Ascension of Jesus into heaven. It is one of the ecumenical feasts (i.e. universally celebrated) of Christian churches, in addition to the feasts of the Passion, of Easter, and Pentecost.

### Pfingsten

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of May Pfingsten (Pentecost) is celebrated. It lasts two days, Pfingstsonntag and Pfingstmontag (21<sup>st</sup> of June). Pentecost ("the Fiftieth [day]") is the Greek name for the Feast of Weeks. It is a prominent feast in the calendar of ancient Israel celebrating the creation of the Law on Sinai. This feast is still celebrated as Shavuot. Among Christians, Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the twelve apostles and other followers of Jesus. For this reason, Pentecost is sometimes described by some Christians today as the "Birthday of the Church."

### Fronleichnam

Fronleichnam takes place on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May. The Feast of Corpus Christi (Latin for "the body of Christ") is a Latin rite of liturgical solemnity celebrating the tradition and belief in the body and blood of Jesus Christ and his presence in the Eucharist. After mass, there is often a Blessed Sacrament procession, displayed in a monstrance. The procession is

## Concerts

### Collegium musicum → dates 2018

The Collegium musicum of the University of Cologne is a musical highlight of the university. It is open to students and employees of the university, as well as musically inclined members of the community. It offers many opportunities to enjoy music – by visiting one of the various concerts or joining an ensemble. Upcoming concert dates are listed below:

#### Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of May | 8pm | Auditorium, UoC *Italia! A journey into the world of the early Baroque*

Jazzchoire of the University of Cologne | by Dietrich Thomas

#### Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> of Mai | 8pm | Auditorium, UoC *1918 - Ein tönendes Zeitbild. Conférence concertante*

Selected Songs by Max Reger | Francis Poulenc | Alfredo Casella | Maurice Ravel | Scott Joplin | Erwin Schulhoff | Paul Hindemith | Igor Strawinsky | Sergeij Prokofjew | Béla Bartók  
Piano and Moderation Johannes Müller

#### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> of Mai | 8pm | Auditorium, UoC *...das hat in uns weitergefressen. Songs and Texts on Second World War.*

Recital of Songs by Bach, Duparc and Mahler as well as Adele and David Bowie  
Thomas Bonni | Christoph Schnackertz | Sascha Tschorn

#### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> of May | 8pm | Auditorium, UoC *O Jerusalem. Songs about war and peace.* Ensemble Sanstierce

By Maria Jonas | Dominik Schneider | Bassem Hawar | Kiomaars Musayyebi

followed by the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The above-mentioned holidays are official, which means that all institutions, shops, and supermarkets will be closed. As Christi Himmelfahrt and Feast of Corpus Christi always fall on a Thursday, it is quite common to take Friday off as well for a short vacation. These Fridays are so-called "Brückentage" (bridge days), as they fill the gap between a Thursday holiday and the weekend.



## Art Cologne 2018 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>th</sup> of April

ART COLOGNE is the world's oldest art fair for modern and contemporary art of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century. Today's annual fair invites approximately 200 international galleries to display paintings, sculptures, photography, prints, installations, performance art and moving image art in the city of Cologne. It serves as a cultural center of the Rhineland region and beyond. Today's ART COLOGNE dates back to the year 1967, when Cologne-based gallerists Hein Stünke and Rudolf Zwirner initiated the first Kunstmarkt Köln.

For further information please refer to:  
<http://www.artcologne.de/ART-COLOGNE/index.php>

## Other Concert Highlights in Cologne

19<sup>th</sup> of March

Sunrise Avenue | Lanxess Arena, Köln

20<sup>th</sup> of March

Kat Frankie | Kulturkirche Nippes, Köln

19<sup>th</sup> of April

Mia | Gloria Theater, Köln

29<sup>th</sup> of April

Erdmöbel | Gloria Theater, Köln

1<sup>st</sup> of May

The Script | Palladiumr, Köln

5<sup>th</sup> of May

The Killers | Lanxess Arena, Köln

30<sup>th</sup> of June

Brings | Lanxess Arena, Köln

## Fun activities in Cologne



## Kirmes in Deutz 31<sup>st</sup> March – 15<sup>th</sup> of April

A spring fair right by the Rhein. Don't miss these 16 days of fun this spring. The fair will be open Monday through Friday from 2pm to 11pm. On Sundays and holidays it will be open earlier, at 11am, and you can enjoy the stands, food, and rides until 11pm. Traditionally, there are fireworks on the opening day



## Cherry Blossom Avenue in Bonn Mid-April

Bonn's famous Heerstrasse, also called "Cherry Blossom Avenue," is an absolute must-see in the middle of April. For about two weeks the street is blooming with gorgeous pink blossoms. The street is found in hip Nordstadt neighborhood, in the city center, only 5 minutes from famous Beethoven's House. The ornamental Japanese cherry blossom trees were planted in the 1980's. Every spring it becomes another popular attraction in the beautiful historic city of Bonn. Bring your camera!

## Rhein in Flammen 6<sup>th</sup> of May

The 31<sup>st</sup> annual "Rhein in Flammen" (Rhine on fire) will take place along the shore of the Rhine in Bonn. With rides, music, food, and one of the biggest fireworks in the area, the celebration is one of the most visited open-air events in the region. For more information please refer to <http://www.rhein-in-flammen.com/bonn/bonn.html>

as well as the last Saturday. The fair grounds are easily accessible by subway: Line 7 takes you directly to 'Deutzer Freiheit'.

## Circus Roncalli

12<sup>th</sup> of April – 21<sup>nd</sup> of May



From April to May the city centre (Neumarkt) will be the site of one of the most famous circuses in Germany. Celebrating their 42<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the circus will present a new program in which they now abstain from working with animals. Tickets start at 29,80 €: <http://www.roncalli.de/>

## Street Food Festival



5<sup>th</sup> May: Launched in 2014, the Street Food-Festival takes part every month in various cities across Germany, including Cologne. For a 2€ entrance fee



## Acht Brücken | Music for Cologne 28<sup>th</sup> of April – 11<sup>th</sup> of May

11 Days, 57 events, 14 world premieres, 1000 choristers and more than 73 hours of new music, classical jazz, pop and world music.

EIGHT BRIDGES | Music for Cologne has taken place at the beginning of May every year since 2011 with contemporary music at the heart of its program. Each year it focuses on a different theme, inviting festival-goers to explore the music of our age and thrilling them with new sounds that they might not otherwise experience. The festival's theme this year is "Ton. Satz. Laut" (Ton, Sentence, Sound).

For more information check the website:  
<http://www.achtbruecken.de/de/>

you can spend a nice day out and experience all different kinds of food from around the world.

The next date is scheduled for May 13<sup>th</sup>. The festival takes place in Ehrenfeld, at Heliosgelände.



## Kirschblütenfest in Bonn

The famous "Cherry Blossom Avenue" in Bonn also hosts a street festival. You can enjoy music, food, drinks, a lively atmosphere and shop at the flea market. Best of all: You'll be surrounded by the beautiful pink blossoms. The dates will be announced soon please follow up on information here: <http://www.kirschbluete-bonn.de/blog-3/>

## Le Bloc at the Belgium Quarter 9<sup>th</sup> of June



Le Bloc – the fashion event of the summer. For the 10<sup>th</sup> time designers and shop owners in the Belgischen Viertel will open their doors until midnight and show off their shops, studios, and showrooms. There will be music, drinks, and a great

fashion show organised by the designers and store owners of the neighbourhood. A street festival not only for fashionistas.



## phil.COLOGNE – International Festival of Philosophy 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> of June

This celebration of thinking and being meets philosophical questions of our time with profound discussions. The organizing team of phil.COLOGNE has invited many inspiring, diverse and exciting thinkers.

Events will take place at the Brunosaal (Klettenberggürtel 65, 50939 Köln). For more information please refer to: <http://www.philcologne.de/>



## Japan Day 2<sup>nd</sup> of May

Since 2002 the city of Düsseldorf and its Japanese citizens have been putting on a Japan Day, showcasing Japanese culture and lifestyle. It starts around noon and ends after sunset with very impressive fireworks. With a wide spectrum of activities, food, and entertainment this day has become a highlight, attracting more than 750.000 visitors in 2017. The program includes Japanese musicians (koto players, J-Pop and J-Rock bands), martial artists, an introduction into the tradition of

## Südstadtfest

9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> of June



In June, the neighbourhood “Südstadt” turns into one big street party. Taking place annually, it is always a big spectacle with bands, street food, fashion shows, a flea market and more. These festivities go on for two days.

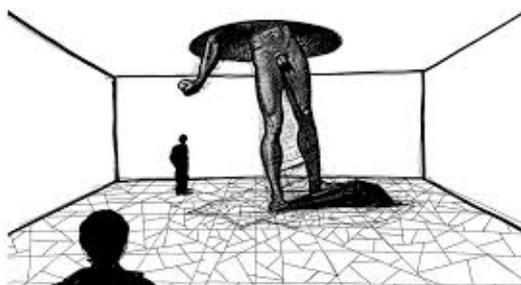
## Reminder

### Stammtisch – Regulars’ Table

Feel free to drop by our International Guestscholars Stammtisch - a regular get-together of the international academics of the University of Cologne!

This is a great opportunity to get to know other international researchers in a less formal environment and to exchange some experiences and thoughts. It is a chance to chat about all sorts of topics, such as your own projects, networking, and career opportunities – or to just spend a nice evening together with a group of colleagues from different faculties. Usually, we will meet at Pimrock, a nice bar located on Aachener Str. (Line 1,12,15 stop "Rudolfplatz", Line 1 stop "Moltkestr."). In case we change the location, you will be informed by email.

Sake, the possibility of trying a kimono, as well as an introduction into the traditional bon dance. Many admirers of the Japanese culture dress up as their favourite Manga characters, therefore a mix of tradition and trends is a big part of this day. For more information please visit: <http://www.japantag-duesseldorf-nrw.de/>



## Preview

### Excursion – Save the date: 23<sup>rd</sup> of April → 2018

The NS-Ordensburg Vogelsang (Cadre-Castle Vogelsang) was one of three educational camps for national-socialist leaders built just after the Nazis came into power. It was used between 1936 and 1940, when it became a training camp for the Wehrmacht. Along with the Reichstagsgelände (Nazi party rally grounds) in Nuremberg, the Ordensburg Vogelsang is one of the biggest constructions based on Nazi-principles – not only in its aesthetics, but also its functionality.

It was conceived as a unique college for NS-elites, educating forthcoming party officers and leaders. Built in a remote area of the Eifel, it is an extensive facility with a bizarre design. It was created to mirror national socialist doctrines of the time, particularly the monstrous ethics of the “Herrenrasse” (master race). This design stands in sharp contrast to the idyllic and peaceful nature of the landscape. The guided tour in Vogelsang will guide us around through the plant and its compound – including its sport facilities, ritual stages and instruction sites. Furthermore, we will have time to see the exhibition in a newly established documentation center. This will definitely be a very interesting field trip filled with plenty of thoughts and discussions!

## Köln Tag at the Cologne Museums

### Monthly

Cologne's vibrant art scene makes it one of Rhineland's major cultural centres. It is home to over 30 museums and hundreds of galleries and exhibitions range from local ancient Roman archaeological sites to contemporary graphics and sculpture.

As a special service to all of Cologne's residents, the city offers complimentary access to all museums on the first Thursday of each month! All you need to bring with you is your ID or any other document proving that you are a resident of the city of Cologne. Until 10pm, you are free to browse the spectacular collections of Cologne's museums.

For more information, visit the website: <http://www.museenkoeln.de/portal/pages/753.aspx?s=753>

### International Get Together – Save the date: 29<sup>th</sup> of June → 2018

We are happy to announce the VIII. International Get-Together-Afternoon for International Researchers and Fellows at the University of Cologne. The event will take place on Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> of July and will be organised by the International Office / Albert's International Assistance.

You will receive further information as well as an invitation email in time before the event.

To ensure you receive our newsletter, make sure you add [international.scholars@verw.uni-koeln.de](mailto:international.scholars@verw.uni-koeln.de) to your address book.

If you prefer not to receive future email from us, please [unsubscribe here](#).