

25TH INTERCULTURAL SUMMER ACADEMY

interculture.de

Jena • Berlin • Hamburg

KALEIDOSCOPE OF COMPLEXITY

INNOVATIVE INSIGHTS AND IMPULSES
FOR A RELATIONAL APPROACH
TO COMPLEX SYSTEMS

5-8 SEPTEMBER 2024
ONLINE AND ON-SITE IN JENA

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

THE INTERCULTURAL SUMMER ACADEMY,
THROUGH ACADEMIC INSIGHTS AND
INTERDISCIPLINARY DIALOGUE, IS DESIGNED
FOR ALUMNI OF OUR CERTIFICATE COURSES
AND OPEN TO ANYONE INTERESTED IN
DISCUSSING CURRENT TOPICS IN
INTERCULTURAL RESEARCH AND PRACTICE.

ORGANISATION

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5 SEPTEMBER ONLINE | ACADEMIC INSIGHTS
AND INTERDISCIPLINARY DIALOGUE
7 - 8 SEPTEMBER IN JENA | TRANSFER TO PRACTICE
AND NETWORKING

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

FOR 5 SEPTEMBER 2024 (ONLINE)

Kaleidoscope of Complexity – Innovative Insights and Impulses for a Relational Approach in Complex Systems

How can we sustainably train our thinking and actions in complexity?

How do we approach the simultaneity of what belongs together and what is separate, of what is entangled and what is loose in the same space? What follows from the realization that, as part of complex structures in shared environments, we bring about change and relate to each other during the process of change?

We focus on complexity as a combination of connected and loose elements: individual actors and entire systems.

The challenge is that these interact with each other in multiple and often unpredictable ways in multi-value contexts. These forces can cause individuals to feel overwhelmed and overtaxed or paralysed by shock, the desire for simplification and withdrawal, or even cause the closure of entire systems.

How can we empower and motivate people to deal with complexity?

The focus here is not primarily on the individual, but on the relationship between and with each other in the context of diverse systems. With concrete impulses, we want to explore ways of overcoming attitudes of resistance and powerlessness in order to achieve a capacity for action that has constructive and positive effects on a system: Looking ahead and focussing on what can be shaped to create cohesion.

Submission of abstracts (250 words): 15 July 2024 to isa@interculture.de

Formats (English and German language):

Lecture, panel (3 presentations), other format ideas are welcome.

Feedback by 19 July 2024

Contributions from different disciplines are welcome. The contributions will be selected to promote an interdisciplinary dialogue. Possible fields of topics are:

- **Relational approaches portraying culture as a complex process**, characterized by reciprocal dynamics between poly-relational collectives and multi-relational individual actors.
- **Individuals, organizations, and societies are understood as relational constructs** in contexts marked by ambiguity, non-linearity, and emergence.
- **Exploration of complex interactions that both create and perpetuate (structural) power and social inequalities**, alongside practical concepts such as Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB+) in addressing current social challenges.
- **Development of crisis management strategies and the application of participative leadership** in complex environments, utilizing technologies such as collaborative platforms and communication tools, alongside the role of emotional intelligence in participative leadership.
- **Contingency as fundamental to human life experiences**, encompassing concepts of social acceleration, alienation, and resonance.
- **Crafting narratives to shape utopias and envision futures** in urban, rural, real, and imagined spaces of possibility.
- **Utilization of theatre pedagogy and systemic methods like social presencing** to understand and reflect on the complexity of social interactions, promoting tolerance of ambiguity and effective handling of uncertainty.
- **Exploration of phenomena involving complex entanglement and superimposition, examining AI's implications for relational design**, recognizing intricate connections and patterns, and considering the role of non-human actors in diversity management and uncertainty processes.