



First telephones, then TV sets and personal computers, today smartphones, tablets and wrist watches – our interaction with media is increasingly marked by the sense of touch. With the rapid spread of touch screens, typing, pressing, and swiping have become dominant modes of interacting with media devices, at least equaling the importance of seeing and hearing.

However, it's not just us who increasingly touch media. In turn, more and more media technologies are also touching, scanning and sensing us. We are completely used to pressure sensors in car seats, motion detectors in automatic doors and dark stairways, body scanners in airports, courts and other public institutions. At the same time, however, we enter into a society populated with mobile and portable media packed with sensors: from smartphones and glasses to shoes and activity trackers.

This double-sided tactility-boom provokes us to rethink media technologies: what they are and/or are becoming right now.

Hosted by the Chair of the Theory of Media Worlds ([henning.schmidgen@uni-weimar.de](mailto:henning.schmidgen@uni-weimar.de))

Layout: Marcel Cotta

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# symmetries of touch

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Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

**Workshop**  
October 5–7, 2016  
Bauhaus-University Weimar

# Wednesday

**15.00**  
Welcome and Introduction.

## Session 1 – Chair: Henning Schmidgen

**15.30**  
»There is no rewind button on the Betamax of your life!« On the Dialectics of Experience and Design of Time.  
[Siegfried Zielinski \(Karlsruhe\)](#)

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**16.15**  
Force Feedback. Sensorical Economies of Machinic Touch.  
[David Parisi \(Charleston\)](#)

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**17.00**  
Coffee Break

## Session 2 – Chair: Rebekka Ladewig

**17.30**  
»The Lightest of Touches.« Aerosols.  
[Hanjo Berressem \(Cologne\)](#)

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**18.15**  
Touch and »Taxis«. Sofia Coppola's *The Virgin Suicides* and *Marie Antoinette*.  
[Lorenz Engell \(Weimar\)](#)

# Thursday

## Session 3 – Chair: Angelika Seppi

**09.30**  
Protuberance. Tele Tactus and Remote Control in Body (and Language).  
[Elisabeth von Samsonow \(Vienna\)](#)

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**10.15**  
Coffee Break

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**10.30**  
Machinic Junkies, Pathic Materials. Guattari and the Production of Subjectivity Today.  
[Andrew Goffey \(Nottingham\)](#)

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**11.15**  
Scanning/Machines. With Guattari & Simondon.  
[Henning Schmidgen \(Weimar\)](#)

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**12.00**  
Lunch Break

## Session 4 – Chair: Julia Bee

**14.30**  
»Les mains, méprisées pour leur matérialisme.« Materialism of Touch vs. Phenomenology of Embodiment.  
[Charles T. Wolfe \(Ghent\)](#)

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**15.15**  
Coffee Break

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**15.30**  
From Tactile to Tacit. Pathologies of Touch.  
[Rebekka Ladewig \(Weimar\)](#)

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**16.15**  
Subtle Motors, Dextrous Hands. The Sciences of Touch ca. 1930.  
[Max Stadler \(Zurich\)](#)

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**19.00**  
Dinner

# Friday

## Session 5 – Chair: Bernard Robben

**09.30**  
Images Made by Contagion. On Dermatological Wax Moulages.  
[Mechtild Fend \(London\)](#)

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**10.15**  
Coffee Break

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**10.30**  
For More Inclusive Interactivity. Haptics and Disability.  
[Mark Paterson \(Pittsburgh\)](#)

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**11.15**  
How Bodies and World Meet in Tangible and Embodied Interactions. Tactile, Kinaesthetic, and Somatic Experience.  
[Eva Hornecker \(Weimar\)](#)

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**12.00**  
Lunch Break

## Session 6 – Chair: Henning Schmidgen

**14.30**  
Haptic Field. Touch as Atmosphere and Ambience.  
[Christopher Salter \(Montreal\)](#)

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**15.15**  
Farewell.