



Carl Max Rebel, „In Sehnsucht“ / „While Longing,” 1902; in *Deutsche Kunst und Dekoration* 5, no. 6 (Darmstadt, March 1902), 272. Courtesy of ETH-Bau Library.

Key Concepts of the Humanities and Social Sciences

An interdisciplinary lecture series of the
Institute of Advanced Study in the Humanities
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The **IASH** is a research institute of the Philosophical-Historical Faculty of the University of Bern. It offers PhD students support and professional training and envisions an international orientation of academic research.

Wednesday, 06 March 2013, 18.15 – 19.45
University of Bern, Hauptgebäude, Hochschulstrasse 4, Room 220

‘To Dwell amid the Waves’: *Sehnsucht* between Erogenic and Hysteriogenic Zones

Prof. Dr. Georges Teyssot, Université de Laval, Québec

The lecture attempts to draw a topology, in which dwellings come across as something reversible, like the skin of a dead animal or the form of a sock. Forging a new kind of organicism, the interior becomes exterior, while, vice versa, the exterior folds itself into surfaces that may be smooth or striated, folded and unfolding, invaginated or exogastrular. As an exemplification, the lecture investigates if it might be possible to reconstruct Walter Benjamin’s lost essay on Jugendstil, in which he aimed to theorize the possibility of inhabiting (*das Wohnen*) as an “open air architecture,” a kind of environment “in the open.” As much as anticipating a future condition, Benjamin’s study established an archaeology of the experiments explored by the Jugendstil, since for him “this birth of *plein air* [originated] from the spirit of the interior.”


7 March, 9:15-14:30, room 304, University of Bern, Hochschulstrasse 4, Workshop (limited places)

You have the opportunity to join a workshop with Georges Teyssot. The event consists of a discussion of the lecture and a core text as well as three presentations by PhD students of the Graduate School and The Interior Project. Moderator: Prof. Dr. Bernd Nicolai.

Please register with Manuela Rossini: rossini@iash.unibe.ch by 26 February 2013.

Georges Teyssot is an architect and a scholar. He has taught history and theory at the Istituto Universitario di Architettura of Venice from 1981 to 1993; at Princeton University’s School of Architecture intermittently from 1989 to 2002; and at the GTA in the Department of Architecture at Zurich’s ETH in 2009. Presently, since 2004, he is Professor at Laval University’s School of Architecture in Quebec City. He has published more than twelve volumes, including *Interior Landscapes* (1988); *Die Krankheit des Domizils. Wohnen und Wohnbau, 1800-1930* (1989); *The Architecture of Western Gardens* (together with Monique Mosser), republished as *The History of Garden Design: The Western Tradition from the Renaissance to the Present Day* (2000). He has written the introduction to *Flesh: Architectural Probes* (1995; reprint, 2011) by Diller + Scofidio with whom he curated the exhibition *The American Lawn. Surface of Everyday Life* at the Canadian Center for Architecture (Montréal, 1998), followed by an edited volume on the topic. He is preparing a collection of essays, entitled *A Topology of Everyday Constellations*, to be published in the “Writing Architecture Series” at The MIT Press (Spring 2013).

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