27 April 2016 • 12:00 pm • German House, 172 College Avenue, Seminar Room

From Cave-Paintings to Techno-Imagination: Rethinking History and Images in Vilém Flusser’s Media Theory

Lunchtime talk by Sascha Hosters

Rutgers Department of Germanic, Russian & East European Languages and Literatures

With programmatic titles such as “Towards a Philosophy of Photography” (1984), “Into the Universe of Technical Images” (1985), or “Does Writing have a Future?” (1987), Vilém Flusser established himself as one of the most influential thinkers on communication and media in the 20th century. Well received in Germany, specifically in the context of a new wave of “German Media Theory” since the 1980s, Flusser’s concepts also entered the US-American discourse in various literature, language and media studies departments in recent years. As his ideas anticipated a range of characteristic phenomena that describe our increasingly digital existence today, this talk intends to present some of his core concepts on communication and text-image relations alongside contemporary examples.

Sascha Hosters is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Germanic, Russian, & East European Languages & Literatures at Rutgers University. His academic interests are media theory, cinema studies and generally all things visual (and virtual). This talk presents an essential theoretical part of his larger dissertation project that analyzes the interdependencies between audiovisual perception and digital images in “German Media Theory.”

For more information, please contact the German Department at 732-932-7201 or anna.sandberg@rutgers.edu.