

Thomas Kling's *Bakchische Epiphanien* – Projekt „Vorzeitbelebung“

Reconstructing the Digital Writing Process from a Hard Drive in the Thomas Kling Archive (Digital Forensics)

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The talk will outline the philological reconstruction of the digital writing process of Thomas Kling's *Bakchische Epiphanien* essays, titled *Projekt „Vorzeitbelebung“* with digital forensic tools and methods, and discuss examples from the digital dossier *génétique* from a textual genetic as well as scholarly editing perspective. The born digital draft materials, temporary files, textual data fragments and other writing process traces of *Projekt „Vorzeitbelebung“* have been recovered from a forensic image of a hard drive in the collections of the Thomas Kling Archive (Stiftung Insel Hombroich) in the course of an FWO funded research project. In the poetological essay, published 2005 in Kling's last volume of poetry and essays *Auswertung der Flugdaten*, Kling probes into poetic modes of intertextuality and poetological reflective representation of the poetic cultural archive („Poetik, Archivbilder“, „Bakchische Epiphanien“) throughout his personal canon which in this case ranges from Euripides, Ovidius, the ancient cults of Dionysus Bromius, Hermes and shaman traditions to Stefan George, Rudolf Borchardt, Ortega y Gasset, Ezra Pound and Gottfried Benn. Tracing the digital writing process of this short essay collection with digital forensic tools not only demonstrates digital forensic methods relevant for all archival studies on born digital material, but also sheds light on the intellectual composition of Kling's reasoning on poetological intertextuality („Sondage“).

The talk will, on the methodological level, discuss the application of forensic computer science tools and methods to born digital documents and parts of archives, focusing on the philological benefit for genetic scholarly editions and the *critique génétique* on the one hand as well as on issues of sane archiving and representation of the digital record in a scholarly edition on the other. The talk will try and map the conceptual impact of the digital forensic perspective and the concrete materiality of the digital historical record on philologically central terms and concepts such as 'document', 'materiality', 'writing process', 'trace' as well as on the practice of (documentary) scholarly editing.

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