

## Joseph Twist: Report for Transnationalising the Humanities Funding

The conference “Artistic Residency: A Conference to Mark the 50th Anniversary of the *Anwerbestopp*” was held in the Humanities Institute from 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2024. It was jointly organised by Dr Joseph Twist (UCD), Dr Leila Mukhida (Cambridge), Dr Maria Roca Lizarazu (Cambridge) and Dr Lizzie Stewart (King’s College London), and it attracted delegates from Ireland, Britain, the Netherlands, Germany and Turkey. Unfortunately, the academic keynote speaker, Prof. Onur Nobrega (Hochschule Darmstadt), had to cancel her trip due to a family emergency; and the keynote artist, the director Cem Kaya, also had to cancel due to a clash with a new project. The film screening of Kaya’s film *Liebe, D-Mark und Tod* was, thankfully, still able to go ahead in the Goethe Institut, attracting guests from outside the conference (ca. 20 people in total) and generating intellectual discussion closely related to the conference theme. Dr Mukhida gave an introductory talk, situating the film in discussions about the “archive of Migration”.

The papers in the conference ranged from discussions of queer German cinema, to the political dimension of DAAD funded artistic residencies for Turkish artists, and expressions of Jewish-Palestinian solidarity through art. All papers highlighted in different ways the political nature of artistic residencies, be it in the freedom from local discursive restraints, how they allow for transnational political networks to develop, or how they trouble traditional notions of belonging and ethnic definitions of German culture.

The narrow theme of the conference meant that the discussions were rich and detailed, and that a close research community developed very quickly. This was catalysed by the hugely fruitful workshop at the start of the conference, organised by Dr Stewart and Dr Roca Lizarazu, and then cemented by the final discussion, “Dwelling upon Residency”, at the conference’s close, which was also led by Dr Stewart and Dr Roca Lizarazu. The workshop, entitled “Mapping, Perching, Finding Ways In”, provided an opportunity for participants to situate their work and come into dialogue with one another. Rather than asking speakers to submit a biography to be read at the start of each panel, we used an exercise in mapping to introduce ourselves to one another. This workshop approach drew inspiration from Moses März’s artistic maps of intellectual, activist, and artistic forms of resistance in Germany, presented at the 12th Berlin Biennale in 2022, and from “fugitive” methods (Moten and Harney), as participants were asked to create mind-maps related to a research topic linked to the conference theme.

After the conference, everyone agreed that they would like to take this new research network further. Discussions are still ongoing about what that might look like and how we could grow the number of participants. Ideas include further meetings with work-shop-based elements to further the productive discussions, leading to a joint publication.

