

Friday, June 19

9:00 **Ahmadreza Tavasoli** (Paris VIII University): The Role of Punctuation in *Gravity's Rainbow*: Hyphen, Em Dash, Quotation Marks

9:30 **Irina Torde** (Belgrade): Reimagining the Trickster Archetype: Thomas Pynchon's *Gravity's Rainbow* in Dialogue with L. Frank Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* and Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

10:00 **Vitor Melo Gonsales** (São Paulo): The Fiction of Thought: Narrative Form as a Cognitive Apparatus in *Gravity's Rainbow*

coffee break

11:00 **Dominika Bugno-Narecka** (Lublin): From Tropic to Topic: Bananas as the Uncanny Commodity in Pynchon's Fiction

11:30 **Justin St. Clair** (University of South Alabama): Pynchon's Super Balls

12:00 **Tore Rye Andersen** (Aarhus): The City Paranoiac: The True Story behind Gwenhidwy's "Gradient of Wretchedness"

19:00 free concert @ domicil, Hansastraße 7-11 (more info on the right)

International Pynchon Week 2026 concludes with a free concert at Dortmund's most venerable music venue, domicil, keeping it real since 1969. We are proud to present **Visit** (Tyler Burba, Christian Hänggi, Simon Truog, Dario Meier), who will perform Pynchonian songs from their album „Now Everybody-“ as well as new material.

Our special guest is Jack Campbell (@jack.m.campbell) on violin.

Support by Ariana Sheikhi (@ariyaamusic) and Lisa Schnickmann (@liesel_official).

Doors and cash bar open at 19:00. You need a ticket to enter. Please contact the conference organizers to get one!



<https://now-everybody.party>
<https://www.existentialhymns.net>
<https://domicil-dortmund.de/>

Organizers:

Burak Sezer (burak.sezer@tu-dortmund.de)
Sascha Pöhlmann (sascha.poehlmann@tu-dortmund.de)

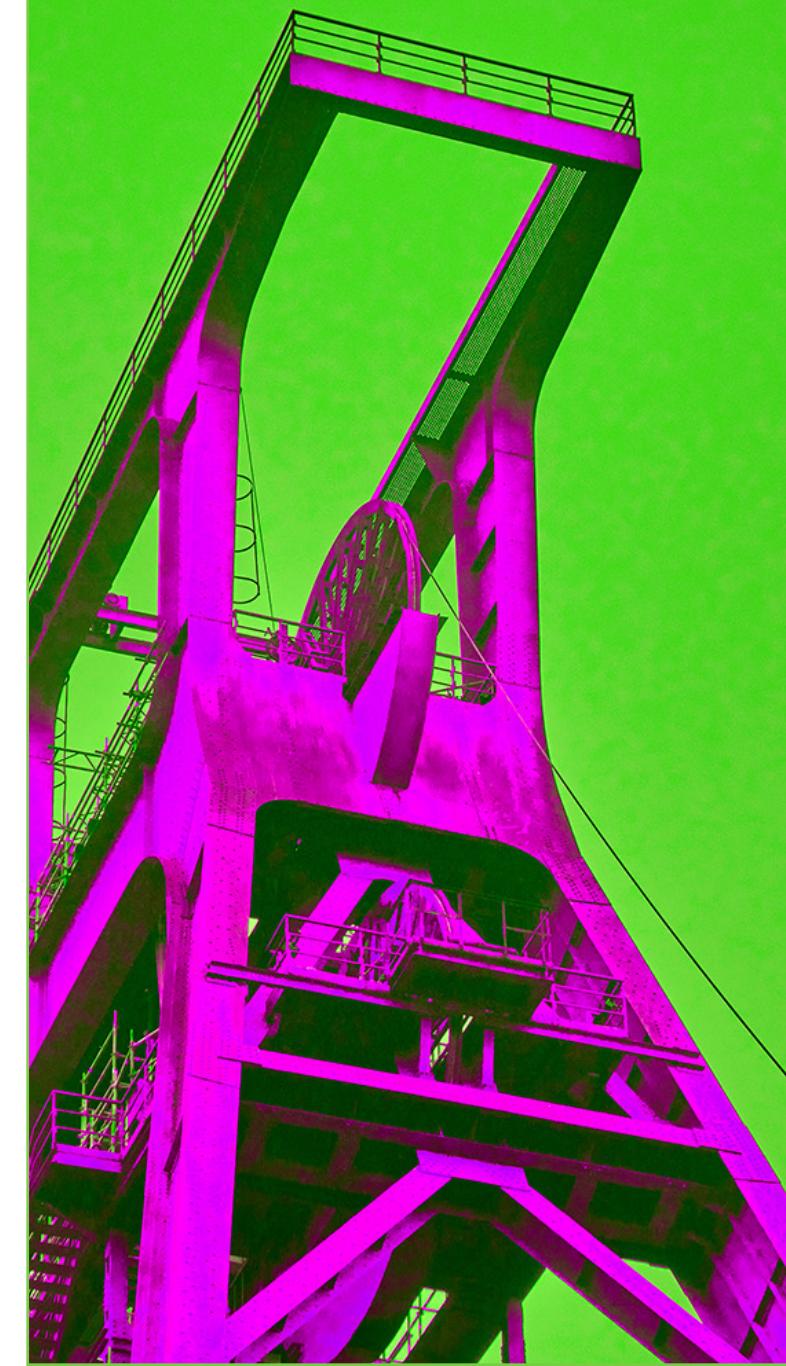
There is no conference fee. All are welcome!



www.internationalpynchonweek.org

International Pynchon Week TU Dortmund 2026

Conference Program



Monday, June 15

12:00 coffee break, registration open
13:30 welcome

14:00 **Hanjo Berressem** (Cologne): Pynchon's Light
14:30 **Inger H. Dalsgaard** (Aarhus): Authorial Grace and Readerly Charity: Reading Pynchon with Compassion
15:00 **Gary Thompson** (Saginaw Valley State University): Reading Pynchon in a Time of Conspiracy Theories

coffee break

16:00 **Magda Majewska** (Frankfurt): Thomas Pynchon, Critical Theorist: Rereading *Gravity's Rainbow* as Prophetic Fiction
16:30 **Ron S. Judy** (National Chung Hsing University): The Long, Long Goodbye: Pynchon, Lethem, and the Slow Demise of the American Left
17:00 **Andrin Albrecht** (Jena): Thomas Blue Bear? Walter Moers and the German Pynchonesque

17:30 reception

Tuesday continued

14:00 **Paolo Simonetti** (Sapienza University of Rome): "Real' Means Dead": Pynchon's Post-Truth Realism
14:30 **Ben Brown** (Edinburgh): Fraternal Relations and the Subversion of Doubling in *Against the Day*
15:00 **Erik Ketzan, Manal Altammami, Xiaorui Yu** (King's College London): Toward the Thomas Pynchon Online Bibliography 1.5: Mandarin Chinese and Arabic Sources, and the Open Pynchon Reception Corpus

coffee break

16:00 **Jack Campbell** (Basel): "A Music Not Without Majesty": A Compositional Adaptation of The Poisson Distribution in *Gravity's Rainbow*
16:30 **Michael Lozano** (Prague): Patience & Paranoia
17:00 **Samia Saad** (San Diego): Misguide to *Gravity's Rainbow*

19:00 reservations at Hövels Hausbrauerei, Hoher Wall 5-7

Wednesday, June 17

9:00 **María-Ángeles Martínez** (Alcalá): The Foregrounding of Characters and Events in Pynchon's "Under the Rose" Rewritten in V.
9:30 **Keita Hatooka** (Hosei University): Doubly Refracted Representations of Japanese People in Thomas Pynchon's Novels
10:00 **Cormac Chester** (Strasbourg): "Like a side of beef": Blackness in *The Man in the High Castle* and *Gravity's Rainbow*

coffee break

11:00 **Shreyas Casturi** (Wright State University): Out of Nowhere: Object Teleportation in Thomas Pynchon's Novels
11:30 **Jeff Severs** (UBC Vancouver): The Disappearing Weapons of *Shadow Ticket*: Firearms, the Occult, and Pynchon's Career-Long Critique of Violence
12:00 **Umberto Rossi** (Sapienza University of Rome): Fiume, the Shadow City: Impermanence and Transitoriality in *Shadow Ticket*

14:00 bus trip to Zeche Zollverein (Essen) & Hattingen

Thursday, June 18

9:00 **Sergej Macura** (Belgrade): The Balkans from a Native Perspective: Adjustments of the Imaginary Viewpoint
9:30 **David Leupold** (Humboldt University, Berlin): From Spatial Periphery to Temporal Prism: Central Asia in Pynchon's Prewar Eschatology
10:00 **Katie Heslop** (Durham): Traversing the Mexican-American Border in Thomas Pynchon's *Against the Day*

coffee break

11:00 **Terry Reilly** (University of Alaska): *Vineland*: Psychometrics and the Vineland Scales
11:30 **Sean Carswell** (California State University Channel Islands): Nixonian Repression and Contemporary Authoritarianism in *Vineland* and *One Battle After Another*
12:00 **Abe Walker** (Fayetteville State University): "Folded and Unfolded and Hundred Times": Toward a Pynchonian Topology

lunch break

14:00 **Rebecca Schönsee** (Vienna): A Fool's Bet on Crypto: Pynchon's Hieronymus-Wheel Crossing Cypherpunk-Dreams
14:30 **Mariano Falzone** (Lincoln, UK): Between Coded and Codeless: *Bleeding Edge* and the Digital Sublime
15:00 **Zofia Kolbuszewska** (Wrocław): Crossing a Divide between Embodied Vulnerability and Post-Apocalyptic Moral Promise: Entrapment, Compassion and Thomas Pynchon's Imaginary Machines

coffee break

16:00-17:30 **Joanna Freer** (Exeter) & **Sam Thomas** (Durham): Plenary discussion on teaching Pynchon

Tuesday, June 16

9:00 **Eric Sandberg** (City University of Hong Kong): Crime Fiction and Thomas Pynchon's Two Americas
9:30 **Sanita Delić** (Sarajevo): Chaos, Conspiracy, and the Limits of Control in *Shadow Ticket*
10:00 **Kostas Kaltsas** (Athens): 'Borders less easy to cross': *Shadow Ticket* between *Against the Day* and *Gravity's Rainbow* or, Pynchon's 20th Century Revisited

coffee break

11:00 **Shreyas Casturi** (Wright State University): Out of Nowhere: Object Teleportation in Thomas Pynchon's Novels
11:30 **Jeff Severs** (UBC Vancouver): The Disappearing Weapons of *Shadow Ticket*: Firearms, the Occult, and Pynchon's Career-Long Critique of Violence
12:00 **Umberto Rossi** (Sapienza University of Rome): Fiume, the Shadow City: Impermanence and Transitoriality in *Shadow Ticket*

lunch break