The city of Florence is regarded as the birthplace of the Renaissance. The fact that the economic and commercial power structures that developed during this time also brought about the colonization of non-European worlds through linguistic and semiotic hegemony, among other things, is to this day rarely incorporated into the traditional Florentine narrative.

Post-colonial theoretical approaches question the role of the Latin alphabet, of printing, of language in the dominance of the renaissance narrative – in particular, these more recent approaches revisit social ideals on whose flip sides are the dispossession, canonization and hierarchizing of culture, memory and space. These ideals and their contrasting opposites unfolded, and continue to unfold, in the afterlife of the renaissance narrative.

Key Selling Points

- The symposium UNMAPPING the RENAISSANCE follows critical resurveys of the mental map of a canonical and canonizing understanding of culture and period-concept: in a dialog between science and art, whose performative practices are intended to decidedly transcend established academic formats, the event considers the connections between hegemonic sign systems, imagination and (de-)colonial practices.

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