

EBG Newsletter 2025/2

07.10.2025



Bloch-Newsletter of the international Ernst-Bloch-Society 2025/2

Dear readers of the newsletter of the Ernst-Bloch-Society,

a series of events are scheduled for this autumn (some of which are held in cooperation with the Ernst Bloch Society); announcements of these events will be the focus of this issue of our newsletter. As usual, you will also find information about current publications.

We hope you enjoy reading our latest Bloch Newsletter.

If you would like to subscribe to or unsubscribe from the newsletter, please send an e-mail to:

ebg-news@web.de

If you have any new publications or upcoming events that you would like us to mention in the Bloch Newsletter, please send us a message to the e-mail address mentioned above.

Contents

1. Upcoming Conferences and Events.....	2
2. Publications	4
3. Miscellaneous	5
Impressum	6

1. Upcoming Conferences and Events

1.1 Conference: 50 Jahre Ernst Blochs „Experimentum Mundi“ (22nd to 24th October 2025, Ludwigshafen)

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of Ernst Bloch's *Experimentum Mundi*, a conference will be held at the Ernst Bloch Centre in Ludwigshafen from 22 to 24 October 2025; It is being organised in cooperation between the Ernst Bloch Centre (Ludwigshafen), the Institute for Design Science (Munich) and the Ernst Bloch Society. The conference will explore the relevance of Bloch's category theory in its interdisciplinary scope. This year's conference will build on a conference that took place in Berlin in 1995 on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the publication of *Experimentum Mundi* (cf. Rainer E. Zimmermann, Gerd Koch (eds.): U-Topoi. Ästhetik und politische Praxis bei Ernst Bloch, Mössingen-Talheim 1996).

The conference language is German. The event is open to the public. The conference programme is as follows:

22. October

<u>Time (Chair)</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Title</u>
14.30 chair = Francesca Vidal (Landau)	Rainer E. Zimmermann (Berlin/Cambridge)	Eröffnung/Die Kategorien im Experimentum Mundi
15.30	Beat Dietschy (Bern)	Das Experimentum Mundi ist kein Anthropozän. Zur Herrschaftskritik in Blochs Werk
16.30	Gérard Raulet (Paris)	Wunschbild Sphinx. Zum Rätsel offener Geschichte.
17.30 Ω		

23. October

11 chair = Gerd Koch (Berlin)	Ulrich Müller-Schöll (Berlin)	Das offene System bei Bloch
12	Manuel Theophil	„Sich vom Nebel nicht täuschen zu lassen...“ – Zum ideologiekritischen Ausgang von <i>Experimentum Mundi</i>
13 Lunch break		
16	Doris Zeilinger (Nürnberg)	Die Kategorienlehre Blochs als neues sozialwissenschaftliches Paradigma
17 Ω		

24. October

11 chair = Rainer Zimmermann (Berlin, Cambridge)	Martin Blumentritt (Hamburg)	Heiliger Zweck und entheiligendes Mittel. Kausales Mit- bestimmungsrecht der Teleologie
12	Adrian Paukstat (Augsburg)	Teleologie als politisches Problem: Bloch als Vermittler in gegenwärtigen Fortschrittsdebatten
13 End of conference		

1.2 Conference: Blochs „Müntzer“ – Kontexte, Rezeptionen, Potenziale (21st to 23rd November 2025, Wittenberg)

In cooperation with Leucorea (a foundation at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg), the Ernst Bloch Society is organising a conference on Bloch's *Thomas Müntzer* from 21 to 23 November 2025. The conference will take a broad interdisciplinary approach, examining (among other things) the place of the Müntzer book in Bloch's oeuvre as a whole and in the political context of the 1920s. It will also discuss the theological and media reception of the book and Bloch's approach to history in general. On the evening of 22 November, there will also be a reading with the French writer (and winner of the 2025 Bloch Prize) Éric Vuillard.

The conference will be held in Lutherstadt Wittenberg at Leucorea (Collegienstraße 62). The conference programme and information on registration (deadline 15 October) can be found [at the following link](#).

1.3 Lecture and exhibition (among others): Ernst Bloch et l'utopie concrète (16th to 18th October 2025, Marseille)

To mark the 140th anniversary of Ernst Bloch's birth, several events will take place in Marseille from 16 to 18 October 2025. On...

- ...16 October, Arno Münster will give a lecture entitled *Utopie, émancipation et praxis dans la pensée d'Ernst Bloch* (Utopia, emancipation and praxis in the thought of Ernst Bloch) (venue: Auditorium of Marseille City Hall, 61 la Canebière, 13001 Marseille, starting at 5:45 p.m.).
- On 17 and 18 October, from 3 to 7 p.m., the exhibition *En séminaire avec E. Bloch*, featuring photographs by Swiss photographer Hektor Leibundgut, will be on display at the Galerie Zemma (40 rue Sainte, 13001 Marseille).
- Finally, on 17 October at 7:30 p.m., also at Galerie Zemma, there will be a concert by Italian pianist Petra Cini.

Further information about the events can be found on the [website of the Galerie Zemma](#).

1.4 Workshop: Political Theology and Theocracy: Walking the Fine Line Between the Profane and the Messianic

On 12 December 2025, the University of London, School of Advanced Study, will host a workshop on *Political Theology and Theocracy: Walking the Fine Line Between the Profane and the Messianic* (led by Federico Filauri and Gregor Schäfer).

The call for papers is open until 19 October 2025; further information can be [found at this link](#).

2. Publications

2.1 Jean-Pierre Wils (Hrsg.): Hoffnung machen (Reihe: Scheidewege. Schriften für Skepsis und Kritik)

Against the backdrop of the multitude of current crises, including increasing violence (whether it being verbal or physical), how justified is it to speak of hope today? This question is explored from various perspectives in the contributions to this anthology edited by Jean-Pierre Wils.

With contributions by Burkhard Liebsch, Klaas Huizing and Barbara Lochbihler, among others, as well as discussions with Gert Ueding and Hartmut Rosa..

Jean-Pierre Wils (Hrsg.): Hoffnung machen. Stuttgart: Hirzel Verlag 2025 (ISBN 978-3-7776-3553-8).

2.2 Issue on “Hope” by the magazine „agora42. Das philosophische Wirtschaftsmagazin“

Dealing with the question of what the current state of hope is, especially against the backdrop of a multitude of crises, *agora42. Das philosophische Wirtschaftsmagazin* has also dedicated an issue to this topic. Among others, Francesca Vidal contributes a portrait of Ernst Bloch, tracing his life and exploring how Bloch's thinking can provide guidance even in times of multiple crises.

Also featuring contributions from Olivia Mitscherlich-Schönherr, Christian Dries, Dorothee Häußermann, Andrea Dieck and Michael Müller, among others.

Hoffnung, Ausgabe 3/2025 von „agora42. Das philosophische Wirtschaftsmagazin“ (ISSN 1869-5434)

2.3 Lukas Meisner: Critical Marxist Theory. Political Autonomy and the Radicalising Project of Modernity

In his book *Critical Marxist Theory*, Lukas Meisner argues that critical theory underwent multiple forms of domestication throughout the 20th century, which was particularly reflected in the eradication of elements critical of capitalism. Reviving these elements, combining them with Habermas' project of modernity, and thus arriving at a new conceptualisation of political autonomy is at the heart of Meisner's book.

Lukas Meisner: Critical Marxist Theory. Political Autonomy and the Radicalising Project of Modernity. Cham: Springer Nature (Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan 2025 (Gebunden ISBN: 9783031807664, E-Book ISBN 978-3-031-80767-1).

2.4 Troels Thorborg Andersen: *Utopie lesen, Utopie schreiben. Eine literatur-philosophische Untersuchung zu Ernst Bloch und Rainald Goetz*

In his book, Troels Thorborg Andersen contrasts the utopian concepts of Ernst Bloch and Rainald Goetz. While Bloch described concrete utopias as realisable possibilities within the subject and the world, Goetz's understanding of the utopian focuses more on an innate ability that must be developed through constant practice.

Troels Thorborg Andersen: *Utopie lesen, Utopie schreiben. Eine literatur-philosophische Untersuchung zu Ernst Bloch und Rainald Goetz.* (Reihe: Studien zur deutschen Literatur, Bd. 234) De Gruyter Brill 2025 (ISBN gebunden: 9783111618852, ISBN E-Book: 9783111618944).

2.5 Klaus Kufeld: *Utopie und Fortschritt. Einige Anmerkungen zu Ernst Bloch*

The spring edition of *PalatinArt. Magazin für Literatur und Kultur* features an essay by Klaus Kufeld entitled *Utopie und Fortschritt. Einige Anmerkungen zu Ernst Bloch*. In his text, Kufeld outlines the life and work of the philosopher and explains how Bloch understood the principle of hope as a driving force mediated by reality.

Klaus Kufeld: *Utopie und Fortschritt. Einige Anmerkungen zu Ernst Bloch*, in: *PalatinArt. Magazin für Literatur und Kultur*, Ausgabe 3/2025, Heft zum Thema „Idylle/Paradiesgarten“, Nünnerich-Asmus Verlag (ISBN: 978-3-96176-288-0).

3. Miscellaneous

3.1 Ernst-Bloch-Prize 2025 for Éric Vuillard und Ronya Othmann

The Bloch Prize 2025 goes to French writer Éric Vuillard, while the advancement award is given to author and journalist Ronya Othmann. The award ceremony will take place on 20 November at 5 p.m. at the Ernst Bloch Centre (Ludwigshafen).

Further information about the event and the two prize winners can be found on the [Ernst Bloch Centre website](#).

3.2 „Solange ich atme, hoffe ich“ Ernst Bloch zum 140. Geburtstag – Francesca Vidal in conversation with Theo Schneider

In two episodes of the *Podcastliteratur*, Francesca Vidal spoke with Theo Schneider about the life and work of Ernst Bloch. The exchange was entitled „Solange ich atme, hoffe ich“ Ernst Bloch zum 140. Geburtstag am 8.7.2025. Eine Tour d` Horizon um Leben und Werk des Philosophen des Prinzip Hoffnung (‘As long as I breathe, I hope’ Ernst Bloch on his 140th birthday on 8 July 2025. A tour d'horizon of the life and work of the philosopher of the principle of hope); both episodes (episode 54 from 8 July 2025 and episode 55 from 20 July 2025) can be accessed on the [podcast's website](#) and on all popular podcast platforms.

Impressum

Ernst-Bloch-Gesellschaft Ludwigshafen e.V.

Die Gesellschaft ist im Vereinsregister des Amtsgerichts Ludwigshafen unter VR 1824 eingetragen.

Vorstand

Prof. Dr. Francesca Vidal, Präsidentin

Dr. Johan Siebers, Vizepräsident

Prof. Dr. Henning Tegtmeier, Vizepräsident

Dr. Beat Dietschy, Vorstandsmitglied

Prof. Dr. Dr. Rainer E. Zimmermann, Vorstandsmitglied

Prof. Dr. Gert Ueding, Vorstandsmitglied

Reinhard Werk, Schatzmeister

Dr. Reinke Schwinning, Vorstandsmitglied

Dr. Manuel Theophil, Vorstandsmitglied

Kontakt

Ernst-Bloch-Gesellschaft

Geschäftsführung

Reinhard Werk

Albrecht-Dürer-Str. 3

72076 Tübingen

Redaktion des Newsletters

Manuel Theophil / Reinke Schwinning