HIGHLIGHTS 2011
Selected news of the past year
January 27, 2011: The lecture series “Global Concepts? Keywords and Their Historities in Asia and Europe”, organised by Prof. Monica Juneja, Prof. Joachim Kurtz and Dr. Susan Richter, closes with a talk by Prof. Dhruv Raina.
February 2, 2011: Prof. Subrata K. Mitra submits a comprehensive report presenting the achievements of project A1 “Citizenship” during the past two years.
February 3, 2011: Prof. Lieselotte E. Saurma gives her farewell lecture. She worked at the Ruperto Carola since 1995, holding the Chair for Medieval Art History. At the Cluster, she coordinated project D3 “Images of Alterity”.
February 18, 2011: Cluster member Amit Madheshiya wins the World Press Photo Award. His series of twelve images of “Night Screening at Travelling Cinema” in India receives the first prize in the category “Arts and Entertainment/Stories”.
February 23-26, 2011: “The Antithesis Revisited: Different perspectives on Greece and the East, 6th to 1st century BC” is the topic of a conference organised by Dr. Bjørn Paarmann and Dr. Nicolas Zenzen on behalf of project D6 “Antithesis East-West”.

March 16, 2011: Prof. Joachim Friedrich Quack receives the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize. He is awarded the highest German research prize as one of the “world’s most eminent Egyptologists from Germany”.
March 24-26, 2011: Project B1 “Satire”, supervised by Prof. Hans Harder, holds a workshop on “Caricatures as Transcultural Media of Political and Social Propaganda” in Egypt. The workshop is organised by Eliane Ettmüller.
April 7 - June 22, 2011: “Science, Technology and Transcultural Studies” is the topic of a lecture series organized by Dr. Laurent Pordié and Prof. William S. Sax. Among others, it presents Prof. Arthur Kleinman from Harvard University.
May 8-10, 2011: “Rebirthing” Angkor? Heritage between Decadence, Decay, Revival and the Mission to Civilize” is the subject of an international workshop organised by Dr. Michael Falser on behalf of project D12 “Heritage as a Transcultural Concept”.

The international workshop “Rebirthing” and “Preservation” the uses of knowledge about India’s past during early colonialism.

Monika Lampe
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May 12, 2011: The new issue of Cluster’s E-Journal “Transcultural Studies” opens with an article by Prof. Rudolf G. Wagner, in which he investigates the migration of metaphors such as “China asleep/China awakened”.
May 13, 2011: Prof. Heeraman Tiwari is the second scholar to be appointed to the Heinrich Zimmer Chair for Indian Philosophy and Intellectual History. Among others, he organises two seminars at Heidelberg University's South Asia Institute.
May 19, 2011: About 100 people come to the Karl Jaspers Centre for the “Stunde der Universitaet”. Prof. Harald Fuess and Dr. med. Ananda Samir Chopra, member of project C3 “Mind and Body”, give lectures on exchanges between Asia and Europe.
May 19, 2011: The “World Press Photo Exhibition” is opened at the Karl Jaspers Centre. Amit Madheshiya’s photo series of travelling cinemas in India won the prestigious “World Press Photo Award” in the category “Arts and Entertainment/Stories”.
May 23 - July 18, 2011: “Die Heilkunst des Alten Orients” is the topic of a lecture series organised by Prof. Stefan Maul and Prof. Joachim Friedrich Quack on behalf of research area C “Health & Environment”. The event takes place in the New University.
May 25, 2011: About 260 people follow the joint public lecture by the five Cluster professors. "Where is the border between Asia and Europe?" is the central question of the lectures by Prof. Christiane Brosius and her colleagues.
June 2-5, 2011: Project B4 “Transcultural Visuality” organises a workshop on “Colours, Images, Materialities” in Istanbul, Turkey. The project is coordinated by Prof. Christiane Brosius, Prof. Barbara Mittler and Prof. Sumathi Ramaswamy.
June 7, 2011: The German Research Foundation (DFG) approves the funding for a large scale Collaborative Research Centre (Sonderforschungsbereich) on “Material Text Cultures” conceptualised by Prof. Markus Hilgert.
June 23-25, 2011: Project B14 “Religion on Stage”, coordinated by Prof. Axel Michaels and Prof. William S. Sax, organises a workshop on “South Asian Festivals on the Move” in cooperation with Oslo University.
June 27, 2011: Prof. Niels Gutschow, coordinator of research project D4 “Aspects of Authenticity”, is awarded the Fukuoka Arts and Culture Prize 2011. He is the first German to receive this prestigious prize.
June 30 – July 1, 2011: Project D4 “Aspects of Authenticity”, coordinated by Prof. Niels Gutschow and Prof. Lothar Ledderose, organises a workshop on “Spirits in Transcultural Skies” with a keynote lecture by Prof. Ebba Koch (University of Vienna).
July 11, 2011: Dr. Susan Richter and her Junior Research Group “A4 Bureaucracies” have critically edited the autobiography of Gerta von Ubisch, the first female professor at Heidelberg University.
July 24-29, 2011: About 25 young scholars from a dozen countries participate at the Summer School “Cultures of Consumption in Asia and Europe” organised by Prof. Harald Fuess and Dr. David Mervart.
July 25, 2011: Prof. Sheldon Garon (Princeton) opens the Cluster’s Summer School on “Cultures of Consumption” with a keynote lecture on “Why America Spends While the World Saves”.

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July 24-29, 2011: The participants of the Summer School appreciate the combination of lectures by the foremost researchers in the respective disciplines with interactive workshops.
September 7-11, 2011: Research project B11 “New Urban Imaginaries”, coordinated by Prof. Christiane Brosius, organises a workshop on “Growing up and growing old in Shanghai, Delhi and Tokyo” in Shanghai.
September 19, 2011: The “Heidelberg Research Architecture” (HRA) launches an extensive online portal. It features information about various projects, digital resources and acquired databases.
September 22-24, 2011: “Zwangsarbeit als Kriegswaffe” is the topic of a conference organised by Cluster member Dr. Kerstin von Lingen together with Prof. Klaus Gestwa (Tuebingen) in Freudenstadt.
September 26, 2011: The proceedings of the 2009 Annual Conference “Flows of Images and Media” have been edited by Prof. Christiane Brosius and PD Dr. Roland Wenzlhuemer. “Transcultural Turbulences” is the first volume of the Cluster's book series “Transcultural Research”.

September 29 – October 1, 2011: About 100 scholars participate at a conference on transculturality in heritage studies, organised by project D12 “Heritage as a Transcultural Concept” and the Arbeitskreis für Theorie und Lehre der Denkmalpflege.
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October 5-7, 2011: Scholars from the Cluster and around the globe attend the Cluster’s Annual Conference. This year's theme is “Frontiers of Knowledge: Health, Environment and the History of Science”.
October 5, 2011: Prof. Kaushik Sunder Rajan (Chicago) opens the Cluster’s Annual Conference “Frontiers of Knowledge” with a keynote lecture on intellectual property rights and the constitution of biomedicine.
October 5-7, 2011: The largest panel session during the Annual Conference was organised by Prof. Barbara Mittler on the topic “Between Beauty and Health: Visual Itineraries of Changing Bodies in China’s Transcultural Mediascapes (1900s-2000s)”.
October 10, 2011: The first batch of students is welcomed to the new degree programme “M.A. Transcultural Studies”, initiated by the Cluster. The programme is one of the first of its kind, combining an interdisciplinary approach with a trans-regional focus.
October 14, 2011 – January 26, 2012: “Global Philosophies? Reflections and Challenges between Asia and Europe” kicks off with a lecture by Dr. Ori Sela (Tel Aviv). The Cluster’s lecture series during the winter term is organised by Prof. Birgit Kellner (Chair of Buddhist Studies).
October 18, 2011 – January 31, 2012: “Transcultural Controversies in Global Health” is the topic of a lecture series organised by Prof. William Sax on behalf of research area C “Health & Environment”.
October 28-29, 2011: “Trends on the Move” is the title of the final conference of research project B12 “Rethinking Trends”. The research project comprises of 13 junior scholars from different academic backgrounds under the auspices of Prof. Barbara Mittler.
November 2, 2011: Prof. Joachim Kurtz gives his inaugural lecture on “Kant in China: Eine philosophische Wahlverwandtschaft” in the Old Auditorium of Heidelberg University.
November 3, 2011: A group of 28 calligraphers headed by the famous artist Pan Chin Chung visit the Cluster for a workshop. The group has been invited by Prof. Barbara Mittler.
November 4, 2011: In honour of Prof. Rudolf G. Wagner’s 70th birthday, a soiree is organised at the Karl Jaspers Centre. More than 100 colleagues and friends congratulate Prof. Wagner and enjoy the music performances.
November 10-12, 2011: “Well-Connected Domains: Intersections of Asia and Europe in the Ottoman Empire” is the topic of a conference organised by the members of research project A7 “Ottoman Empire”.

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December 8-10, 2011: “Exploring the Senses. Emotions, Performativity, and Ritual” is the title of an international conference organised by Prof. Axel Michaels and Prof. Christoph Wulf at Free University Berlin.
December 16, 2011: The Cluster’s seasonal festivities are held at the Karl Jaspers Centre. The highlight is the music performance by a chorus including Prof. Barbara Mittler.
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**Cover photo:** Amit Madheshiya, “Night Screening at Travelling Cinema”, awarded with the World Press Photo Award 2011, first prize in the category “Arts and Entertainment/Stories”. 
About the Cluster “Asia and Europe”

The Cluster of Excellence “Asia and Europe in a Global Context” is an interdisciplinary network of researchers at Heidelberg University. It was founded in October 2007 as part of the Excellence Initiative launched by the German state and its federal governments.

Today, the Cluster has about 300 affiliated researchers, who examine the processes of cultural exchange between Asia and Europe. In particular, they analyse the shifting asymmetries in cultural, social and political flows. Their work probes issues relevant to contemporary concerns about globalisation by investigating the cultural transfer of ideas, knowledge and commodities.

The Cluster is located at the Karl Jaspers Centre for Advanced Transcultural Studies. Among its partners are Harvard University (United States) and the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (India).