

DFG-FORSCHUNGSGRUPPE

## ANTIZIGANISMUS UND AMBIVALENZ IN EUROPA (1850–1950)

### Empowerment-Workshop (for English version see below)

**Datum:** 28. Januar 2026, 9:30 – 12:30 Uhr

**Ort:** Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen, GCSC-International Graduate Centre for The Study of Culture  
Präsenzveranstaltung

**Sprachen:** Englisch und Deutsch

**Prof. Dr. Kirsten von Hagen**  
Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen  
Institut für Romanistik

**Dr. Deszo Mate**  
Europa-Universität Flensburg  
Interdisciplinary Centre for  
European Studies (ICES)

**Anmeldungen zum Workshop per E-Mail  
an:**

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[Tobias.Haberkorn@geschichte.uni-gies-sen.de](mailto:Tobias.Haberkorn@geschichte.uni-gies-sen.de) und [magdalena.watrin@uni-gies-sen.de](mailto:magdalena.watrin@uni-gies-sen.de)

Die DFG-geförderte Forschungsgruppe „**Antiziganismus und Ambivalenz in Europa (1850–1950)**“ lädt Studierende aus der deutschen und internationalen Sinti\*zze- und Rom\*nja-Community herzlich zum ersten von vier geplanten Empowerment-Workshops ein. Die Studierenden haben die Möglichkeit, an einem zweisprachigen Workshop unter der Leitung von Cat/Catalin Jugravu, Theaterregisseur\*in, Schauspieler\*in und Forscher\*in aus Berlin ([www.cat-jugravu.com](http://www.cat-jugravu.com)), teilzunehmen. Zu Beginn laden Francesco Arman und Kirsten von Hagen mit einem Vortrag zum Thema „Carmen – Soziokulturelle und ästhetische Aspekte und Aufführungen eines Textes im Wandel“ zum Austausch über ethische Repräsentationen von Sinti\*zze und Rom\*nja in Kunst und Kultur ein.

Der Empowerment-Workshop findet im Vorfeld der internationalen Konferenz „**Wissenszirkulation und Ästhetik des Spektakulären**“ der DFG-Forschungsgruppe statt, die vom 28. bis 29. Januar 2026 an der Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen abgehalten wird. Die Teilnehmer\*innen des Empowerment-Workshops sind herzlich eingeladen, an der Konferenz teilzunehmen.

Die interdisziplinäre Forschungsgruppe „**Antiziganismus und Ambivalenz in Europa (1850–1950)**“, bestehend aus Wissenschaftler\*innen der Universitäten Flensburg, Heidelberg, Gießen und Marburg analysiert die Verflechtungsgeschichte der Fremdrepräsentationen und Selbstartikulationen, die in Europa zwischen 1850 und 1950 einerseits zur Inklusion und Emanzipation sowie andererseits zur Exklusion und Elimination von Sinti\*zze und Rom\*nja beigetragen haben.

Dieses Ziel wird durch die Dekonstruktion antiziganistischer Stereotype in Kunst, Staat und Wissenschaft sowie durch die Rekonstruktion der Agency von Sinti\*zze und Rom\*nja erreicht. Gemeinsam werden Transfers, Synchronien und Asynchronien zwischen europäischen Räumen von Spanien über Deutschland bis Rumänien untersucht.

Website:

<https://www.uni-flensburg.de/en/research-group-antiziganism>

DFG RESEARCH GROUP

## ANTIZIGANISM AND AMBIVALENCE IN EUROPE (1850–1950)

### EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP

**Date:** 28 January 2026, 9:30 – 12:30

**Location:** Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen, GCSC-International Graduate Centre for The Study of Culture  
In-Person Event

**Languages:** English and Germ

**Prof. Dr. Kirsten von Hagen**  
Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen  
Institute for Romance Studies

**Dr. Deszo Mate**  
Europa-Universität Flensburg  
Interdisciplinary Centre for  
European Studies (ICES)

**To sign up for the workshop, please send an email to:**

[Kirsten.v.Hagen@romanistik.uni-gies-sen.de](mailto:Kirsten.v.Hagen@romanistik.uni-gies-sen.de), [Deszo.Mate@uni-flensburg.de](mailto:Deszo.Mate@uni-flensburg.de), [Tobias.Haberkorn@geschichte.uni-gies-sen.de](mailto:Tobias.Haberkorn@geschichte.uni-gies-sen.de) and [magdalena.watrin@uni-gies-sen.de](mailto:magdalena.watrin@uni-gies-sen.de)

The DFG-funded Research Group **‘Antiziganism and Ambivalence in Europe (1850–1950)’** warmly invites students from the German and international Sinti\*zze and Rom\*nja community to the first of four planned empowerment workshops. The students will have the opportunity to participate in a bilingual workshop led by Cat/Catalin Jugravu, a Berlin-based theatre director, actor, and researcher ([www.cat-jugravu.com](http://www.cat-jugravu.com)). To start Francesco Arman and Kirsten von Hagen will invite to reflect on ethical representation of Romani in arts and culture on stage with a lecture on “Carmen – Socio-cultural and aesthetic aspects and performances of a text in transition”.

The empowerment workshop will take place in the lead-up to the DFG Research Group’s first international conference, **‘Circulation of Knowledge and Aesthetics of the Spectacular’**, to be held at Justus Liebig University Giessen on 28–29 January 2026. Participants in the empowerment workshop are warmly invited to attend the conference.

The interdisciplinary research group **‘Antiziganism and Ambivalence in Europe (1850-1950)’**, comprising scholars from the universities of Flensburg, Heidelberg, Giessen and Marburg, analyses the intertwined history of representations and self-articulations that contributed to the inclusion and emancipation as well as the exclusion and elimination of Sinti\*zze and Rom\*nja in Europe between 1850 and 1950.

This goal is achieved by deconstructing antiziganist stereotypes in art, state and science as well as by reconstructing the agency of Sinti\*zze and Rom\*nja. Together, transfers, synchronies and asynchronies between European spaces from Spain to Germany and Romania will be analysed.

Website:

<https://www.uni-flensburg.de/en/research-group-antiziganism>

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## **AUTHORSHIP AS POWER – Empowerment Through Poetry & Spoken Word (Workshop + Public Performance)**

**Date:** Wednesday, January 28, 2026

**1) AUTHORSHIP AS POWER / Workshop w. introduction by Dr. Kirsten von Hagen and Francesco Arman**

**Time:** 09:30–12:30

**Location:** GCSC - International Graduate Centre for The Study of Culture, [Otto-Behaghel-Strasse 12, 35394 Gießen](#)

**Language:** English (German also possible)

This workshop is a practical writing space built around one idea: authorship is power. For me, empowerment is the craft of making choices under pressure—language, frame, form, refusal, witness. We will work with poetry and spoken word only. Personal material can enter the room, but it won't stay raw or exposed – it goes through a process of textual transformation: compression, repetition, reframing, shifts in address and perspective, and collective shaping. Writing is not neutral: it can reproduce stereotypes (even “positive” ones) or produce counter-archives and new publics. The focus of the workshop is craft and agency: writing that refuses the pressure to “represent,” while still creating language that can hold complexity and reach an audience.

What we'll do

- short, sharp writing exercises
- optional, low-pressure sharing (the right to pass is always respected)
- tools for building public voice through form: precision, refusal, humour, rhythm

The workshop prioritizes Romani individuals, and is also open to BIPOC, queer and trans students. No one is required to share personal stories. The right to pass is always respected.

**2) THE TEXTS WE KEEP – A Public Multilingual Poetry Reading**

On January 28, consider the entrance hall at the GCSC a liminal stage—a threshold where speech becomes public without becoming available. In this one-hour performance, authorship is exercised, empowerment is practised, dissent is mouthed.

The texts we keep are evidence and future at once: those lines that refuse stereotype, refuse the demand to translate the self, refuse to perform gratitude. How will these multilingual poems and spoken-word pieces appear in different registers? Intimate, collective, ironic, tender, furious? Nothing is performed without consent. What emerges is Rom\*nja-centred authorship in public: precise, undiluted, self-determined.

**Time:** 19:00–20:00

**Location:** Entrance Hall, GCSC Gießen

**Format:** multilingual poetry reading / spoken word performance

Participation in the evening performance is optional, and nothing is shared without explicit consent.

**A limited number of ad hoc contributions may be welcomed from students and professors: brief, self-authored texts offered on the evening, in the spirit of shared authorship. Participation is by invitation in the moment and contingent on time, consent, and the care of the room.**

**MxCAT bio**

**MxCAT** (*Jugravu . she/her*) is an interdisciplinary performance maker, poet, curator, and educator based in Berlin. She is a member of ERIAC (Research Department), an actress/director with Rom\*nja Power Theaterkollektiv, and the founder of the QUEERDOS Kollektiv. Her practice explores Romani and queer/trans politics through performance writing, memory work, and anti-extractive approaches to lived experience. She facilitates workshops that combine craft-based poetic tools with critical attention to power, representation, and collective voice—supporting participants to move from personal material to authored, stage-ready language on their own terms.

Warmly,

CAT

**MxCAT** **they/them/she**

Trans Theatre Director · Performance Artist · Poet

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Art. memory. resistance.