

The realm of writing has never been so extensive; nor has the idea of publication ever been so plural. Not a day passes without a great percentage of humanity publishing one or numerous texts: on a blog, a social media network, or elsewhere thereby also affecting and blurring our notion of literature.

A two-day program of performative live publishing will investigate this emerging sphere with talks and conversations, readings, sound performances, conventions, and more. *Radio Brouhaha*, launched at the evening event (voicerepublic.com) the final evening, capturing audience and infrastructure.

The traditional solitary author in direct contact with his editor, and the *absentia* to an anonymous public is obsolete. In recent years an abundance of literary practices—performances, public readings, sound and visual work, and new public spaces—have emerged, forming an artistic and political “publishing sphere.” If it is true that the imaginary of modern literature is constitutive of the fantasy of a “good” public sphere of democracy then we must find out what kind of societies are emerging from the publishing sphere we are faced with today.

At *The Publishing Sphere*, scholars, writers, artists, and representatives of initiatives will investigate the different locations of contemporary literatures between an abstract sphere and a material space. They will explore what constitutes a literary work beyond the materiality of the book, expose other forms of publishing besides texts, and survey the agents and players who inhabit the field. Alternating between roundtable discussions, performative miniature elements, workshop reach-outs, and literary readings, they will scrutinize their pre-reflections, research notes, image materials and literary references, in order to create a publishing sphere of their own.

The Publishing Sphere is convened by Lionel Ruffel (Université Paris) with Annette Gilbert (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen) in cooperation with Franziska Morlok (Fachhochschule Potsdam).

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The Publishing Sphere— Ecosystem Contemporary Literature

Once More With Repetition

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