Call for Chapters

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Decolonializing Aesthetics, Visual Culture, and the Media

During the past decades, the way visual culture is being created, perceived and (re)presented, has experienced scrutiny from the side of Marxism, feminism, and queer studies. Yet, it is the more astonishing that the sovereignty of individual artmaking still is, despite these influential groundbreaking counter-streams, restricted and distorted by preconceived concepts that are traceable to colonial legacy.

Towards the backdrop of imperial, colonial, postcolonial studies, and critical theory, alerted artists, art historians, scholars from related disciplines, curators, collectors, and critics from Africa, Europe, the Americas, and Asia are thus energized to share their views on decolonializing and, concomitantly, de-hierarchizing visual culture. Convinced that the best prophylaxis against the scopic regimes of persistent neo-colonial attitudes consists in critically reassessing our global cultural heritage, this alliance of authors is pursuing some basic but fundamental questions: The process of decolonializing – what precisely does it imply regarding visual culture? How can art itself possibly contribute to it? What would it take to create its ideal curriculum – in art academies, universities, and in basic education as well? How do we alter the choreographies of museums to inspire and provoke cross-cultural dialogue? How can digital social media be engaged to stimulate widening discursive activism?

Ultimately, this polyfocal collage of texts equally invites to examine the origins of humanist colonial critique from within the core period of imperialism, as a historical prelude of decolonialization.

Please direct any questions regarding this project to: MilzM@web.de

Submission of Abstracts (250 to 350 words) requested until **December 31st 2023;**
1st Draft Submission of chapters: **August 31st 2024**;
Book Release (by Brill Publishing) tentatively scheduled for **Summer 2025**.