

# GERHARD RICHTER: PAINTING BY OTHER MEANS

Symposium | 17 July 2023 | Albertinum Dresden

Hermann-Glückner-Raum, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | The conference language is English.



Gerhard Richter. Portraits. Glas. Abstractions, Albertinum 2022 © Gerhard Richter 2023 (17072023), Photo: David Pinzer, SKD

## 11 A.M. **CINEMATIC PORTRAIT PAINTING OF DEATH** **DR. FRANCES GUERIN, UNIVERSITY OF KENT**

Guerin discuss the complex depictions of death—historical, real and imagined, of painting, the artist, the visitor, among others—in several of Richter’s paintings, particularly in their installation with mirrors and glass panels. On the canvas and in installation, visitors are pulled into a peripatetic experience of dynamically moving images until eventually, they experience a disruptive creation of new images. In Richter’s body of work, like the nebulous space of uncertainty between different media occupied by painting, the movement between death and revivification—if not redemption—never stops. Richter’s *momento mori* thrust a movement through time into the foreground. This play between these same concepts and depictions has been theorized as the preoccupation of the cinema in its earliest manifestations. In Richter’s cinematic visions of death executed in painting, we see a kinetic play between darkness and illumination, as a way to bring clarity through dark and blurry visions. Moreover, Guerin shows that we know this hazy peripatetic vision from Richter’s film *Volker Bradke* (1966).

**Dr. Frances Guerin** is a Fellow with Prof. Dr. Kerstin Schankweiler, Chair of Visual Culture Studies in a Global Context, from April 16 to July 16. Frances Guerin is a scholar, critic and writer. She holds a PhD in Cinema Studies from New York University. She has taught film and visual culture at the University of Kent, Canterbury since 2001.