



International Symposium

Lygia Clark: Artistic Practice in Transcultural Contexts

1-2 October 2025

Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut

Simón-Bolívar-Saal, Potsdamer Str. 37, 10785 Berlin

To accompany the first retrospective of Lygia Clark (1920–1988) in Germany at Neue Nationalgalerie, this symposium invites interdisciplinary contributions that explore Clark's multifaceted practice and its resonance across art history, theory, psychiatry and contemporary artistic production. Clark fundamentally redefined the relationship between artist and viewer, artwork and space understanding art as a participatory, sensorial, sometimes even healing experience. This symposium aims to intensify scholarly attention on her oeuvre, further situate her work within global modernisms, and critically engage with its enduring transcultural relevance.

1 October 2025

09:30 Registration

10:00 Welcome and Introduction

PANEL 1: ART AS A LIVING ORGANISM – LYGIA CLARK IN THE CONTEXT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ART OF HER TIME

Moderation: [Dr. Irina Hiebert Grun](#), [Dr. Maïke Steinkamp](#), Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin

10:30 | Lygia Clark's Creative Phases and the Internationalisation of her Work

[Dr. Daniela Labra](#), Art Historian and Curator, Berlin

11:00 | Reference and Demarcation – Lygia Clark, Concrete Art and Minimal Art

[Dr. Michael Asbury](#), Camberwell, Chelsea and Wimbledon Colleges of Arts, London

11:30 | Postwar Transcendence as Form and Kinship. Lygia Clark and Max Bense

[Dr. Daniel Patric Horn](#), Kunsthistorisches Institut, Freie Universität Berlin

12:00–12:30 | Discussion

12:30 | An Egg of Space and Time: Lygia Clark's Latent Entrancements

[Thotti](#), artist and theorist, Film and Visual Studies, Harvard University

13:00–14:30 Lunch

14:30 | Hybridly Human

[Prof. Dr. Irene V. Small](#), Department of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University

15:00 | Creating Elastic Networks. Lygia Clark's Textile Performances in a Transcultural Context

[Prof. Dr. Alexandra Karentzos](#), Fachbereich Mode und Ästhetik, Technische Universität Darmstadt

15:30 | Elasticity and Trans-Corporality in the Sculptures of Lygia Clark

[Prof. Dr. Ursula Ströbele](#), Institut für Kunstwissenschaft, HBK Braunschweig

15:30–16:00 | Discussion

16:30–17:00 Coffee

17:00–18:00 | Visit of the exhibition Lygia Clark. Retrospective at Neue Nationalgalerie

19:00 Dinner

2 Oktober 2025

09:30 Welcome and Coffee

PANEL 2: COLLECTIVE UNLEARNING PRACTICES – LYGIA CLARK'S PROPOSITIONS

Moderation: **Prof. Dr. Mona Schieren**, Hochschule für Künste Bremen,
Dr. Irina Hiebert Grun, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin

10:00 | **Preuve du réel: Relational Situations between Art and Clinic**

Dr. Marlon Miguel, Bauhaus Universität Weimar / ICI - Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry

10:30 | **If You Hold a Stone: „Structuring the Self“ as a Clinical, Aesthetic, and Political Reference for Confronting Schisms Produced by Colonial Violence**

Prof. Dr. Angela Donini, Department of Philosophy at UNIRIO, Rio de Janeiro

11:00 | **„Structuring the Self“. Lygia Clark's Artistic Method and Shapeshifting Encounter**

Prof. Dr. Mona Schieren, Hochschule für Künste Bremen,
Dr. Oscar Svanellid, Södertörn University, Stockholm

11:30–12:00 | **Discussion**

12:00–13:30 Lunch

13:30 | **The Body School: Lygia Clark's Teaching and a Few Examples of Performance Workshops in the 1970s**

Delphine Paul, École supérieure des beaux-arts de Nîmes

14:00 | **The Pedagogical Body: Sensory Experience as Artistic Pedagogy**

Prof. Dr. Lydie Delahaye, École des Arts de la Sorbonne, Paris

14:30–15:00 | **Discussion**

15:00–15:30 Coffee

PANEL 3: GENDER AND THE ARTS: LYGIA CLARK IN THE CONTEXT OF FEMINIST DEBATES

Moderation: **Dr. Ricarda Musser**, Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut, Berlin

15:30 | **The Presence of Women in the Canonical Magazines of Brazilian Modernism (1922-1929): Precursors of Lygia Clark**

Prof. Dr. Tania Regina de Luca, Universidade Estadual Paulista, São Paulo

Continuation Panel 3:

16:00 | To Expel the Other. Lygia Clark's Feminist Counter-Anthropophagy

Prof. Dr. Tania Rivera, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Rio de Janeiro

16:30–17:00 | Discussion

17:00 | Not Invented but Generated: Lygia Clark's Model of Maternal Making

Prof. Dr. Jordan Troeller, Leuphana Universität Lüneburg

17:30 | The Reception of „A Casa é o Corpo“ at the 1968 Venice Biennial Amidst Political Turmoil

Dr. Lara Demori, Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max-Planck-Institute for Art History, Rome

18:00–18:30 | Discussion

Concept and Organisation:

Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin Dr. Irina Hiebert Grun, Dr. Maike Steinkamp

Hochschule für Künste Bremen Prof. Dr. Mona Schieren

Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut, Berlin Dr. Ricarda Musser

The Conference is supported by



Cooperation Partners:

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The conference language is English. The symposium is open for the public.

Participation is free of charge. Please register until 28.9.25 at:

SymposiumLygiaClark@iai.spk-berlin.de

Photo: Lygia Clark, Óculos, 1966 © Cultural Association "The World of Lygia Clark" /

photo: Eduardo Clark, 1973