Radical Diversity as Political Intervention: Some remarks on the works of Max Czollek and Sasha Marianna Salzmann (Moritz Schramm)

The concept of ‘radical diversity’ has increasingly found its way into artistic and cultural debates in Germany. In particular, the writer Max Czollek and the dramaturg Sasha Marianna Salzmann have explored the concept at workshops such as Desintegration (2016) and Desintegriert Euch! (2017), both held at the Maxim Gorki Theatre in Berlin. Insisting on the undisputable multiplicity of all individual backgrounds and focusing on the situational and shifting experiences of discrimination and/or privileges, the concept seeks to undermine traditional notions of solidarity based on stable identity-groups. Instead, the concept explores new alliances beyond notions of sameness, e.g. in relation to ethnic, religious, and sexual categories.

In the paper, I will introduce this developing concept and discuss its potential for new political approaches beyond traditional identity politics.