

# School of Arts & Aesthetics & Centre of German Studies, JNU

Invites you to a lecture by

**Andrea Allerkamp**

European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder)



on

## Moving Constellations The political challenge of the aesthetic regime

In critical philosophy the systematization of sensual perception leads us to two sources of knowledge – sensoriality and intellect. I shall discuss Alexander G. Baumgarten’s fundamental insight into a new discipline of aesthetics. In order to enlarge the realm of legitimate cognition and to include sensual forms in philosophy Baumgarten provokes an epistemological break which operates with poetical terms of transition and similarity: “The path to truth leads from night through dawn to noon”, it says in § 7 of Baumgarten’s *Aesthetica*. In Baumgarten’s attempt to overcome the rational metaphysics through a thinking in similarities, we are confronted with a gap between presence and presentation. It is the political dimension of this gap that draws our attention to Jacques Rancière’s aesthetical regime of arts. In modern democracy we have to face the challenge of common places of sensual experience where political conflicts become visible. Rancière’s return to Baumgarten’s *Aesthetica* is owed to the insight that politics can only exist as a coming to be in narration and poetry: *Il y a politique* – There are politics.

**Andrea Allerkamp** is Professor of Western European Literatures at European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder), Germany

**Chair**

**Anil Bhatti**

Professor Emeritus, Centre of German Studies, JNU

**Time and Date**

5.00 p.m., Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018

**Venue**

Auditorium

School of Arts & Aesthetics

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi