

Since the years of the Gold Rush, California has stood symbolically for utopian longing. The idea of unlimited freedom plays a crucial role in the vision of a geographic region which has inspired the hopes and dreams of many. As a melting pot, the region comprises a large diversity of arts and cultures and ways of living, and its openness toward multiple diaspora communities. However, taking the brutal facts into account, such as unaffordable house prices, a high degree of homelessness, the threat of wood fires and earthquakes, it remains questionable as to whether California has not rather become a dystopia for the majority of people living there.

This lecture series investigates how California as both utopia and dystopia manifests itself in art and architecture, and seeks to explore if the Californian Dream lives up to reality. We are particularly keen on interrogating how California functions as a nourishing ground for many novel ideas and approaches, particularly in cultural studies, gender studies, museum studies, political science and postcolonialism.

Organised by:

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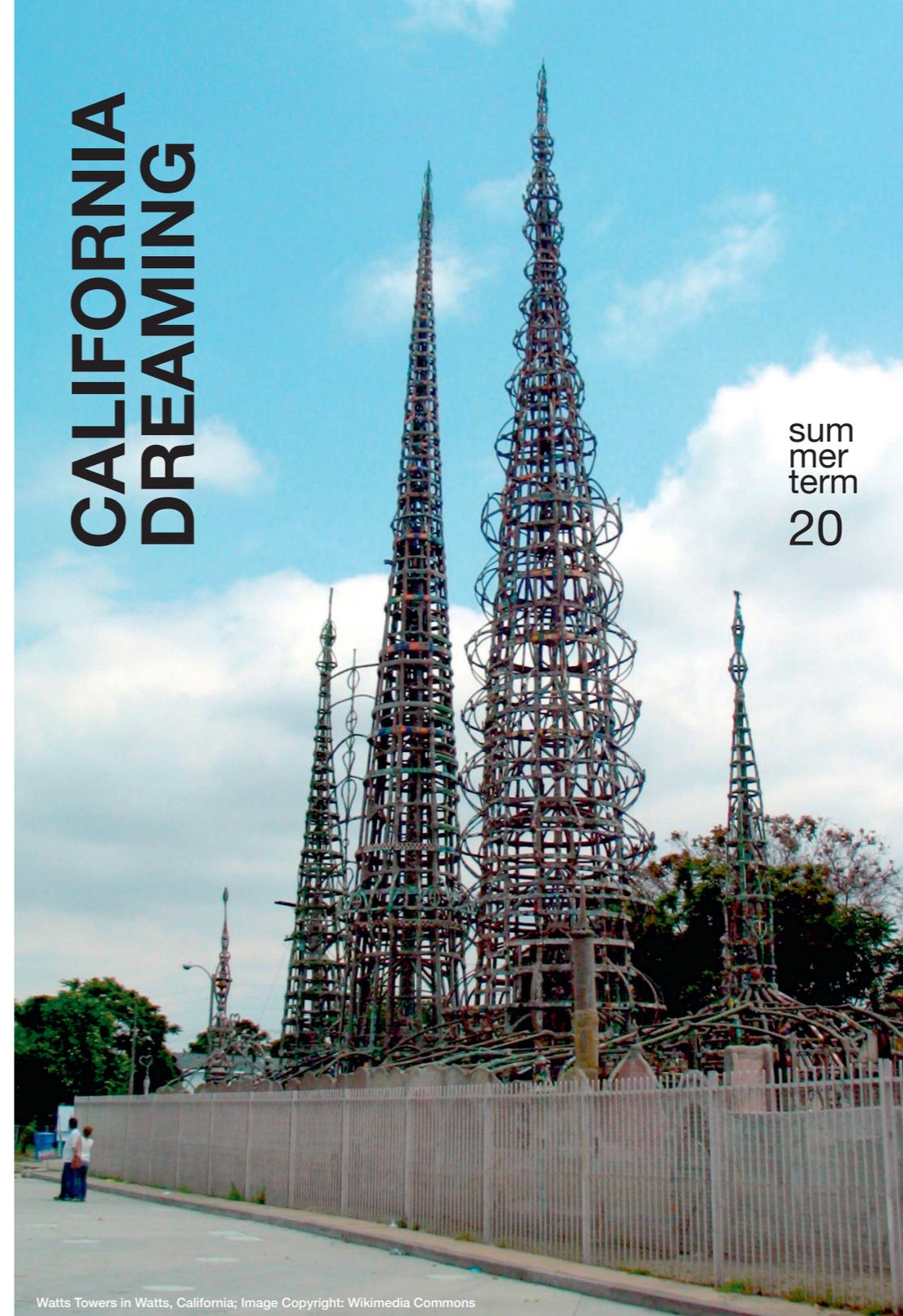


Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, München



CALIFORNIA DREAMING

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27 april 2020	Vorhoelzer Forum 18.30 - 20.00 h	Sarah Hegenbart , (Munich, Germany) "Utopia (Un)limited: Dystopian Elements in Painted Portraits of the Californian Dream"	8 june 2020	Vorhoelzer Forum 18.30 - 20.00 h	Michael Diers , (Berlin, Germany) "URBANOTOPIA. On Word and Image and Some Political Aspects in Ed Ruscha's Every Building on the Sunset Strip (1966)"
04 may 2020	Vorhoelzer Forum 18.30 - 20.00 h	Udo Weilacher , (Munich, Germany) "Call it sculpture when it moves you so: Crea- tions between art and landscape by Isamu Noguchi"	15 june 2020	Vorhoelzer Forum 18.30 - 20.00 h	Adrian Daub , (Stanford, United States) "Narrating the Suburbs: Von den Suburbs Erzählen"
11 may 2020	Vorhoelzer Forum 18.30 - 20.00 h	Eva Ehninger , (Berlin, Germany) "Imagining the Status Quo. Ed Ruscha's Streets of Los Angeles"	24 june 2020	Zentralinstitut 18.30 - 20.00 h	Thomas O. Haakenson , (San Francisco, United States) "Visions of Racial Justice: From the Black Arts Movement to Black Dada"
18 may 2020	Vorhoelzer Forum 18.30 - 20.00 h	Sina Brückner-Amin , (Munich, Germany) "The Greenest Playground. Planting Los Angeles, 1930"	8 july 2020	Zentralinstitut 18.30 - 20.00 h	Jörg Trempler , (Passau, Germany) "Paulo Soleris Arcosanti als Gegen- entwurf zum Kalifornischen Traum"
25 may 2020	Vorhoelzer Forum 18.30 - 20.00 h	Sylvia Lavin , (Princeton, United States) "Life After Utopia: Richard Neutra and Survi- val by Design"			