



Akademien der Wissenschaften Schweiz  
Académies suisses des sciences  
Accademie svizzera delle scienze  
Academias svizras da las ciencias  
Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences

EVENT



Fondazione  
Internazionale Balzan  
"Premio"

ZENTRUM

GESCHICHTE DES WISSENS



## Balzan Distinguished Lecture 2010

Humanists with Inky Fingers: The Culture of Correction in Renaissance Europe  
Professor Anthony Grafton, Princeton University  
Monday, 20 December 2010, 17.00–19.30h



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## **Balzan Distinguished Lecture 2010**

Humanists with Inky Fingers: The Culture of Correction in Renaissance Europe  
Professor Anthony Grafton, Princeton University

**Monday, 20 December 2010**

**17.00 – 19.30h**

**Semper Aula, Federal Institute of Technology Zurich**

Organizing institutions: The International Balzan Foundation «Prize»  
and the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences, in cooperation  
with the Competence Centre «History of Knowledge» ETHZ / University  
of Zurich

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This year's Balzan Distinguished Lecture will be given by Professor Anthony Grafton, Princeton University, USA.

The aim of this lecture is to present some recent research on the History of Books and Publishing by Anthony Grafton, who received the Balzan Prize in 2002 in the category «History of the Humanities». Professor Grafton will also present the work of the two young scholars who were funded by the second half of his Balzan Prize.

# Program

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17.00h Reception

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17.30h Welcome

*Ralph Eichler,*  
President of the Federal Institute  
of Technology Zurich

*Alberto Quadrio Curzio,*  
Chairman of the Joint Commission  
established by the International  
Balzan Foundation «Prize», the Swiss  
Academies of Arts and Sciences and  
the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei

*Peter Suter,*  
President of the Swiss Academies  
of Arts and Sciences

17.50h Presentation of Anthony Grafton

*Michael Hagner*

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18.00h **Humanists with Inky Fingers: *Anthony Grafton*  
The Culture of Correction  
in Renaissance Europe**

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18.45h Comment

*Valentin Groebner*

19.00h Discussion

Chair: *Michael Hagner*

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19.30h Aperitif

# Participants

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**Anthony Grafton** studied History and History of Science at the University of Chicago and University College London. In 1974–75 he taught History at Cornell University; since 1975 he has been teaching at Princeton University, where he is currently Henry Putnam University Professor of History and the Humanities. At Princeton he founded the Freshman Seminar Program, which he directed for ten years. Since then he has served as Director of the Program in European Cultural Studies of the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Research and at the Council of the Humanities.

His books include *Joseph Scaliger: A Study in the History of Classical Scholarship*, Oxford 1983–93; *Defenders of the Text*, Harvard 1991; *The Footnote: A Curious History*, Harvard 1997; *What Was History? The Art of History in Early Modern Europe*, Cambridge 2007; (with Megan Williams) *Christianity and the Transformation of the Book*, Harvard 2006; (with Brian Curran, Pamela Long and Benjamin Weiss) *Obelisk*, MIT 2008; *Worlds Made by Words*, Harvard 2008 and (with Joanna Weinberg) «*I Have Always Loved the Holy Tongue.*» *Isaac Casaubon, the Jews, and A Forgotten Chapter in Renaissance Scholarship*, Harvard 2011. He has also contributed articles and reviews to *American Scholar*, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, the *London Review of Books*, the *Nation*, the *New Republic*, the *New York Review of Books*, the *New Yorker*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*. He is currently finishing a book on Renaissance proof correctors and studying histories of Christianity in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Europe.

A. Grafton is a member of the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a corresponding fellow of the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften and the British Academy. He has received fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Science Foundation, and the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. As a visiting professor, he has held posts at the Collège de France, Columbia University, the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, the Warburg Haus in Hamburg, and the University of Munich. He has held a resident position at the American Academy in Rome and has held visiting positions at Pembroke College, Oxford; Christ's College, Cambridge; Trinity College, Cambridge; and Merton College, Oxford. In 2002 he received the Balzan Prize for History of the Humanities, and in 2003 the Mellon Foundation Award for Distinguished Achievement in the Humanities.

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**Valentin Groebner**, born in Vienna in 1962, studied in Vienna, Marburg and Hamburg and received a doctorate in 1991 at the University of Bielefeld for his research about the underclasses of Nuremberg in the 15th century (*Ökonomie ohne Haus*, Göttingen 1993). Afterwards, he was an assistant at the History Department of the University of Basel and in 1996–97, he was a fellow at the *Wissenschaftskolleg* in Berlin. His Habilitation (post-doctoral thesis) *Gefährliche Geschenke. Korruption und politische Sprache am Oberrhein und in der Eidgenossenschaft am Beginn der Neuzeit* was accepted in 1998 at the University of Basel. Published in 2000 by the Universitätsverlag Konstanz, an English translation of this publication followed in 2002, edited by Pennsylvania University Press. After this, Valentin Groebner was funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation within the scope of the ATHENA-Programme and was a Jean Monnet-Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence. He also held lectures at several Universities in Switzerland, France and the USA. Since March 2004, he has been full professor for the History of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance at the Department of History of the University of Lucerne.

In addition to various articles, he published studies about the representation of violence (*Ungestalten*, Munich 2003) about the history of identification and the identity card (*Der Schein der Person*, Munich 2004) and about the historical narration in Modern Times (*Das Mittelalter hört nicht auf*, Munich 2008). From 1997 to 2009, he acted as co-editor of the scientific journal *Historische Anthropologie*; from 2007 to 2010, he was a member of the executive board of the *Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte*; since 2006, he is a member of the editing body of the *Zeitschrift für Ideengeschichte*. At present, he directs the research project *Menschen als Ware*, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. This project deals with the patterns of marketing and purchasability of human bodies between the 16th and the 20th century. Valentin Groebner lives in Lucerne.

**Michael Hagner** studied Medicine and Philosophy at the Freie Universität Berlin. After gaining his M.D. in 1986, he worked as a neurophysiologist at the FU Berlin. He worked at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine in London and at the Universities of Lübeck and Göttingen, where he obtained his habilitation at the Medical Faculty (1994). In 1995 he moved to the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. Since 2003 he has been Professor of Science Studies at the ETH Zürich. M. Hagner was visiting Professor at the universities of Salzburg, Tel Aviv, Frankfurt am Main and Cologne. He was a Fellow at the Collegium Helveticum, at the Zentrum für Literatur und Kulturforschung in Berlin and at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris (2008). He has been awarded the Prize of the Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Science and the Sigmund-Freud-Preis für wissenschaftliche Prosa by the Deutsche Akademie für Sprache und Dichtung. His books include: *Homo cereбрalis. Der Wandel vom Seelenorgan zum Gehirn*, 1997; *Geniale Gehirne. Zur Geschichte der Elitegehirnforschung*, 2004; *Der Hauslehrer – Die Geschichte eines Kriminalfalls. Erziehung, Sexualität und Medien um 1900*, 2010.

## **The International Balzan Foundation**

The International Balzan Foundation was founded in 1956 by Lina Balzan to honour the memory of her father Eugenio Balzan, eminent journalist and later Administrative Director of the Milan based *Corriere della Sera*.

The International Balzan Foundation aims to promote culture, the sciences and the most meritorious initiatives in the cause of humanity, peace and brotherhood among peoples throughout the world, regardless of nationality race or creed. Currently, four annual awards are made: two in literature, moral sciences and the arts; and two in the physical, mathematical and natural sciences and medicine. In 2001, regulations concerning the prizes were changed, and prizewinners must now destine half of their awards for research projects carried out preferably by young researchers. At intervals of not less than three years, the Balzan Foundation also awards a prize for Humanity, Peace and Fraternity among Peoples.

The foundation is divided into two entities. The «Prize» Foundation with headquarters in Milan and the «Fund» Foundation with headquarters in Zurich. At the «Prize» Foundation in Milan, the General Prize Committee, which is composed of eminent European scholars and scientists, chooses the subject areas of the awards. Nominations for the prizes are received at the Foundation's request from the world's leading learned societies. The General Prize Committee then chooses from this select list of candidates, the winners of the four awards.

The «Fund» Foundation in Zurich administers Eugenio Balzan's estate and provides the financing for the awards.

## **The Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences**

The Association of the «Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences» includes the Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT), the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAHS), the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences (SAMS), and the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences (SATW) as well as the Centre for Excellence TA-SWISS. Their collaboration is focused on methods of anticipating future trends, ethics and the dialogue between science and society. In facing up to today's significant challenges at the international level, science and education are the most important resources of Switzerland. The necessary investments in the sciences depend on the confidence people have towards scientific achievements and their benefits for society. Scientific knowledge shall and must be for the common good; however, always with the critical analysis of society and politics and also with their agreement. It is the aim of the Swiss Scientific Academies to develop an equal dialogue between science and society and to advise politics and society on scientifically based, society-relevant questions. The academies stand for an open and pluralistic understanding of science. Thus, they represent the sciences comprehensively, at an inter-institutional as well as inter-departmental level. Based in the scientific community, they have access to expertise and excellence and therefore can contribute specialized knowledge to important political questions. Over the long-term, they mutually commit to resolving transdisciplinary questions in the following fields:

- » They offer foresight to society-relevant subjects in the fields of education, research and technology.
- » They commit to the perception of ethical-based responsibility in gaining and applying scientific knowledge.
- » They build bridges between science, politics and society.

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## **The Competence Centre «History of Knowledge»**

The Centre for the History of Knowledge is a joint venture of the ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich. It was founded in 2005 by David Gugerli, Michael Hagner, Michael Hampe, Philipp Sarasin and Jakob Tanner in order to build a platform for inspiring, teaching and conducting historical and philosophical research on various forms of knowledge in modern societies. The Centre does not privilege a single discipline nor does it restrict itself to a given subject matter. The idea is rather to bring together scholars from various disciplines who share an interest in transdisciplinary topics, and who are aware of the cultural conditions in the generation, circulation and degeneration of knowledge. The Centre offers a Master's Program in History and Philosophy of Science and a PhD Program, and it regularly hosts public lectures and discussions on relevant issues in the History of Knowledge. Currently, the Centre comprises thirteen faculty members and several junior associated members, bringing together expertise in History, Philosophy, History of Science, Art History, Theoretical Medicine, History of Technology and Literature.

# Organisational details

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## **Registration**

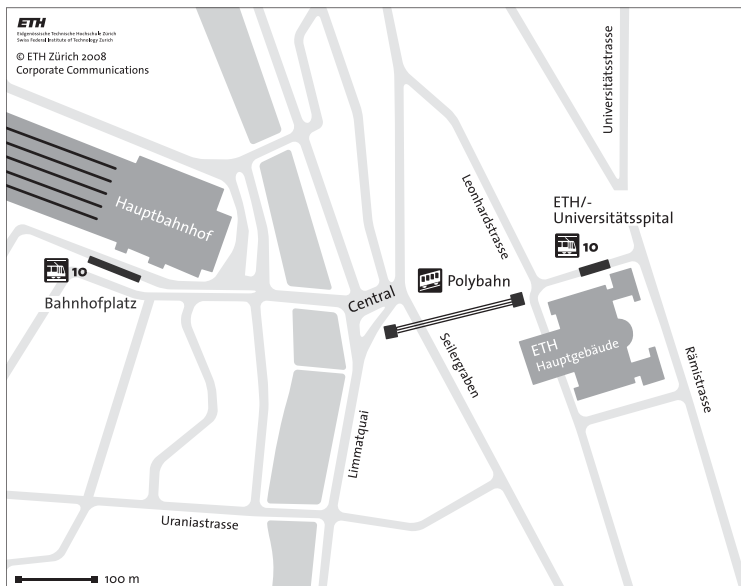
Please use either the registration form attached to this program or go to [www.akademien-schweiz.ch/balzan](http://www.akademien-schweiz.ch/balzan) and register online by **26 October 2010**. Please note that the number of participants is limited.

## **Further information and organization**

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## Venue

Federal Institute of Technology Zurich  
Semper Aula (Main building, room G 60)  
Rämistrasse 101  
8092 Zurich



From Zurich main station: Tram No. 10 (in the direction of «Zürich, Bahnhof Oerlikon» or «Zürich Flughafen, Fracht») to «ETHZ/Universitätsspital»

