

**Prof. Dr. Daniel Stein**  
"Graphic Narratives of the  
Middle Passage"

**November 25, 2021**  
15.30 - 17.30  
Dekanatssaal  
03-150, ReWi

**Obama Dissertation Prize &  
Hans Galinsky Memorial Prize**  
Award Ceremonies

**Öffentliche Antrittsvorlesung**  
Dr. habil. Philipp Reisner

18.00 - 19.00  
Online (MS Teams)  
<https://tinyurl.com/4x6s3ejt>  
(free access)



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## “Graphic Narratives of the Middle Passage”

If literary authors have long struggled to depict the horrors of the Middle Passage, its treatment in graphic narrative is a more recent phenomenon. Burdened by incomplete archival documentation and deeply entrenched histories of racist visualization, African American graphic artists face additional challenges of representation. This talk argues that Tom Feeling's *Middle Passage* (1995), Kyle Baker's *Nat Turner* (2008), and Rebecca Hall and Hugo Martinez's *Wake* (2021) answer Toni Morrison's call to “unspeakable things” by exploring ways to *undraw the unimaginable*. They do so by graphically recuperating images of the black family as nodes in the African Atlantic diaspora, veering back and forth between efforts to create historical verisimilitude and visual hyperbole to negotiate difficult legacies of racial representation.



Prof. Dr. Daniel Stein is Professor of North American Literary and Cultural Studies and Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at the University of Siegen.

# Obama Lecture Program 2021

## Welcome Address

Speaker of the Obama Institute  
(Alfred Hornung)

## Obama Lecture (in memoriam Karl Dietz)

Introduction: Mita Banerjee

## Obama Dissertation Prize & Acceptance Speech

Introduction: Axel R. Schäfer

## Galinsky Prizes

Introduction: Oliver Scheiding

## Tribute to Dr. Hagenmaier-Farnbauer

Speaker of the Obama Institute  
(Alfred Hornung)

## Obama Dissertation Prize

The Obama Dissertation Prize is awarded annually for outstanding Ph.D. work in Transnational American Studies.

### Alessandra Magrin Haas, PhD

University of Strathclyde

“The Wild West in Italy and in the Italian Imagination: Travel Writing, Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and Popular Culture”

## Hans Galinsky Memorial Prize

The Hans Galinsky Memorial Prize is awarded annually to the best student theses and research papers in Early American Studies at the Obama Institute's Mainz campus.

### Patrick Simon

“Toward a Puritan Chresis: Cotton Mather and Noah's Ark in America”  
Master's Thesis

### Paula Alice Kapp

“The Exceptional Spiritual Autobiography of Samson Occom”  
Term Paper (Proseminar 122: Early American Literature, WiSe 2020/21)