

Cover: detail of *Il ridotto*, painting by Pietro Longhi
Courtesy of Fondazione Querini Stampalia, Venezia



Department of Socio-Economics
Institute for Economic and Social History

Participants

Reuven BRENNER holds the Repap Chair of Economics in the Desautels Faculty of Management at McGill University in Montreal. Recent publications include “A World of Chance. Betting on Religion, Games, Wall Street” (together with Gabrielle A. Brenner and Aaron Brown). The book examines the role of gambling and risk-taking in different societies.

Emma CASEY is a Senior lecturer in Sociology at Kingston University, London. She focuses on domestic economies and forms of consumption, including gambling, from a gender perspective. In 2008, she published “Women. pleasure and the gambling experience”.

Thierry DEPAULIS is a historian and specialist in the history of games. He is the author of numerous articles and contributions, such as “A Wicked Pack of Cards: The Origins of the Occult Tarot” (together with Ronald Decker and Sir Michael Dummett). In 2009, he sat in the scientific board of the Paris exhibition “Jeux des princes, jeux de vilains” (Bibliothèque nationale de France).

Oliver M. FELDMANN is a lecturer of philosophy at the WU. He has published on Logical Empiricism and the *Wiener Kreis*.

Roberto GARVÍA is professor of Sociology at the University Carlos III, Madrid. He published several studies on lottery markets in a comparative perspective, such as “Loterías. Un estudio desde la nueva sociología económica”.

Lothar HÜBL is professor emeritus of economics at the Leibniz University at Hannover. He specializes in casino and sports markets.

Florian KLENK is a prominent Viennese investigative journalist, author and chief editor of the city’s weekly “Falter”.

Sergius KODERA is Head of the Department of Cultural Studies at the New Design University, St. Pölten, and Senior Lecturer at the University of Vienna’s Department of Philosophy. He publishes on the history of Renaissance thought.

Mark LUTTER is a sociologist at the Cologne Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies. In 2010, he published his comparative study “Märkte für Träume. Die Soziologie des Lottospiels”.

Riitta MATILAINEN is a graduate student of social history at the University of Helsinki, Department of Political and Economic Sciences. As a researcher she focuses on gambling in the Northern European countries.

Gherardo ORTALLI is Professor of Medieval History in Venice. He is the editor of “Ludica. Annali di storia e civiltà del gioco”, the only journal worldwide for the history of ludicity. His most recent publication is “Barattieri. Il gioco d’azzardo fra economia ed etica. Secoli XIII-XV”.

Willem OTTERSPEER is Professor of University History at Leiden. He is the author of, *inter alia*, a biography of Johan Huizinga, the eminent Dutch historian and medievalist.

Jeroen PUTTEVILS is currently a lecturer and research member of the Centre for Urban History at Antwerp University. He specializes in the economic history of the Lower Countries of the 16th century, and particularly in the activities of international merchants.

James RAVEN is a Senior Research Fellow at Magdalene College, University of Cambridge, and Professor of Modern History at the University of Essex. He is the author of numerous books and articles on early modern and modern history.

Gerda REITH is Professor of Sociology at the University of Glasgow. In “The Age of Chance. Gambling in Western Culture” she explores gambling in the context of conceptions of an increasingly insecure world.

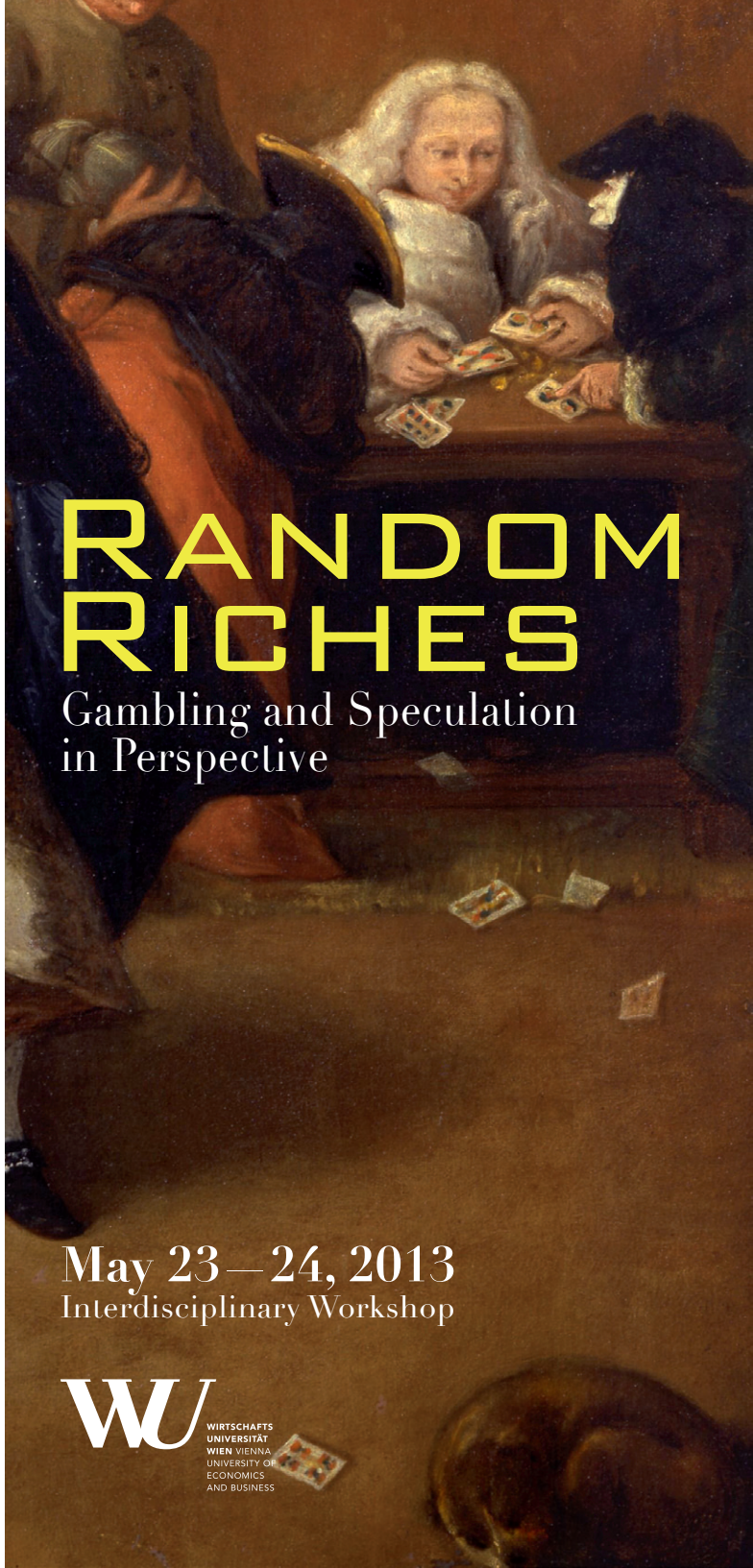
Hermann RAUCHENSCHWANDTNER is an economist and philosopher. Currently he is Head of Business Development & Economics at the Salzburg University of Applied Sciences.

Peter SCHNYDER is Professor of Modern German Literature at the University of Neuchâtel. His best known work is “Alea. Zählen und Erzählen im Zeichen des Glücksspiels 1650–1850”.

Johann August SCHÜLEIN is Professor of General and Economic Sociology at the Vienna University of Economics and Business.

Urs STÄHELI is Professor of Sociology at the University of Hamburg. In 2007, he published “Spektakuläre Spekulation. Das Populäre in der Ökonomie.”

Manfred ZOLLINGER is a historian who teaches Economic and Social History at WU. He is a prominent co-author of various exhibition catalogues on gambling, such as “Loteries en europe” (La Tour-de-Peilz 2012) and “Spiele der Stadt” (Vienna 2013). Presently he is writing a global history of lotteries.



RANDOM RICHES

Gambling and Speculation in Perspective

May 23—24, 2013
Interdisciplinary Workshop

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„Gambling should be cheap, fair, frivolous and on a small scale if its evil economic results are to be reduced to a minimum, and the fun and mild excitement to be maximised.“

J. M. Keynes

The potentials of gambling have been a concern both in pre-capitalist societies and in modern capitalism. While gambling in its various forms has developed into one of the major industries worldwide, the “gambling spirit”, “casino society” or “lottery principle” are brought into play when certain forms of capitalism are rejected.

In many aspects, gambling remains a puzzling challenge to academic research. At this conference, distinguished scholars from various countries and disciplines will contribute to the better understanding of how societies, or parts of them, deal with the competing concepts of skill and chance through games, of entertainment, leisure, and the quest for gain.

Venues:

WU, Großer Sitzungssaal (GS) for all sessions

Bruno Kreisky Forum

Armbrustergasse 15, 1190 Wien

for keynote speech



Programme

Thursday, 23 May

9:15 Welcome address by Professor Michael Meyer
Vice-Rector of WU and Head of the Nonprofit Management Group

Sessions

9:30 Homo ludens and the Quest for Chance

Willem OTTERSPEER
Leiden University
Varieties of ‘Spieltrieb’

Sergius KODERA
New Design University, St. Pölten
Taking Chances: Girolamo Cardano (1501–76) on Gambling, and the Art of Memory, and Magic

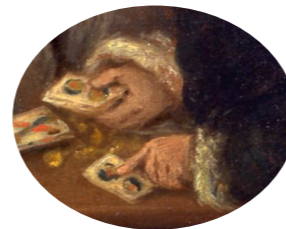
Peter SCHNYDER
University of Neuchâtel
Heterotopias of Chance. Gambling and Subjectivity around 1800

Commentator: Oliver M. FELDMANN WU

12:30 Lunch

16:30 Bruno Kreisky Forum

Keynote address
by Reuven BRENNER
McGill University
Gambling and Speculation



Informal reception

Friday, 24 May

Morning sessions

9:00 From Ban to Business

Gherardo ORTALLI
University Ca’Foscari, Venice
The Ancient Roots of Modern Gambling

Thierry DEPAULIS
Paris
Bingo! A Material History of Modern Gaming

James RAVEN
University of Essex
Debating the Lottery in Britain c. 1750-1830

Riitta MATILAINEN
University of Helsinki
Cultural and Social Meanings of Gambling in the Nordic Countries: A Historical Perspective

Commentator: Manfred ZOLLINGER WU

11:00 Coffee break

11:15 Groups, Class, and Gender Perspectives

Roberto GARVÍA
University Carlos III, Madrid
What Can Sociologists Say About Gambling?

Mark LUTTER
Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne
Why the Poor Play the Lottery. Sociological Approaches to Explaining Class-based Lottery Play

Emma CASEY
Kingston University, London
Patterns and Strategies of Risk at Home: Gambling and Households

Lothar HÜBL
University Hannover
Casino Gambling as Part of the German Gambling Market

Commentator: Johann A. SCHÜLEIN WU

13:30 Aperó

Afternoon session

14:30 Gambling and Economic Behaviour

Jeroen PUTTEVILS
Antwerp University
Sixteenth-century Antwerp Traders. Rational Investments and Irrational Exuberance

Urs STÄHELI
Hamburg University
Contested Boundaries of the Economy: Gambling and Speculation in the USA

Hermann RAUCHENSCHWANDTNER
University of Applied Sciences, Salzburg
The Poker Face: Masquerade, Games and the Financial Crisis

Gerda REITH
University of Glasgow
‘Pathological’ Gambling in an Age of Chance

Commentator: Florian KLENK Vienna

