

# Text Index

Glossary 7

Abbreviations 11

0. Introduction 12

0.1. The Mythological Phoenix: (New) Media Art 16

0.2. *A Digital Dark Ages?* Conservation of Media Art 18

1. Conservation Theory in Transition: From Monuments to Digital Art 22

1.1. Brief Introduction to the History of Conservation Theory 22

1.1.1. Brief Introduction to Conservation Theory from 17th century until the 1980s 22

1.1.2. A brief overview of the major tendencies of modern art conservation 29

1.1.2.1. Communicative Turn 33

1.1.3. A Brief Overview of the History and Main Challenges of the Media Art Conservation 35

1.1.3.1. Preservation of Time-Based and Technology-Based Art 36

1.1.3.2. Preservation of Computer-Based and Net Art 41

1.2. The Development and History of ZKM's Conservation Infrastructure 48

1.2.1. Laboratory for Antiquated Video Systems 48

1.2.2. Archive and Department *\*Wissen\** 51

1.2.3. Conservation of Computer-Based Art and MUTECH 54

1.2.4. ZKM's Theoretical Contributions 57

2. HiFi (High Fidelity): Object of Media Arts 60

2.1. Medium is the Message 60

2.1.1. Media vs. Medium 60

2.1.2. Intermedia vs. Multimedia 62

2.1.3. Post-Medium vs. Postmedia 66

2.1.4. Post-Post-Media or Medium of Media Art 69

2.1.5. Post-Media in ZKM 73

2.2. The Idea Becomes a Machine That Makes the Art 78

2.2.1. Media Art Artefact in the Institution: the Question of Collecting and Problem of Authenticity 83

2.3. Conservation and the Media Art Object: The Case of ZKM 90

2.3.1. Object as an Event 90

2.3.2. Object as a System 96

2.3.2.1. Variable Media Approach 100

2.3.2.2. Variable Media in ZKM 103

2.3.2.2.1. *\*Fac Similes\**: Practice of Duplication of Artworks 108

3. "AnArcheology": A Media Archaeological Approach to Conservation 112

3.1. "Les Immatériaux": Myth of Ephemerality 112

|          |  |     |
|----------|--|-----|
| 3.1.1.1. | “Immaterials” in Curatorial and Conservatorial Practice                    | 116 |
| 3.1.1.2. | Ephemeral and the Memory   | 122 |
| 3.2.     | “On the New”: Myth of Modernity  | 125 |
| 3.2.1.1. | The “New” in the Archive   | 130 |
| 3.3.     | ZKM: “Making History”  | 131 |
| 3.3.1.1. | The Noah’s Ark Principle: Collection Methodology at ZKM                    | 135 |
| 3.3.1.2. | An (An-)Archive: Archive at ZKM  | 140 |
| 3.4.     | Second Original: A Media Archaeological Approach to Media Art Preservation | 143 |
| 3.4.1.   | What is Media Archaeology?   | 144 |
| 3.4.2.   | What is the “Second Original”?   | 146 |
| 3.4.3.   | “Second Original” at ZKM   | 151 |

**Bibliography** 156

**Appendix I: Interviews** 170

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Interview with Morgan Stricot and Matthieu Vlaminck | 170 |
| Interview with Morgan Stricot. Part II              | 187 |
| Interview with Dorcas Müller                        | 198 |
| Interview with Christian Haardt                     | 213 |
| Interview with Felix Mittelberger                   | 227 |
| Interview with Olia Lialina                         | 237 |