Campus News 01/2022



Dear subscribers, find here a compact overview of all current events as well as the latest column by IPU President Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz.

Sooahn Meier started working in the International Office in mid-January. Welcome to the IPU Berlin.

The International Horst Kächele Memorial Webinar Series 2022–2023

12 February 2022 | 3 pm (CET)



Events

27 January 2022 | 5pm **IPU Information Session for prospective students** Register on our website.

11 February 2022 | 8 pm

On the Matter of Neuro-Psychoanalysis: A Reason to Resist or Resistance to Reason? Hybrid event with Prof. Christine Kirchhoff and Prof. Mark Solms, hosted by krIPU Berlin and moderated by Benedikt Salfeld Register on our website.

12 February 2022 | 3 pm (CET)

The Hard Problem of Consciousness

First webinar of the International Horst Kächele Memorial Webinar Series 2022-2023 with Prof. Dr. Mark Solms and Prof. Thomas Fuchs (University of Heidelberg) Register on our website.

IPU Information Session for prospective students

27 January | 5 pm



The January Column from Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz

Beethoven's Tenth

me like a piece I knew. Which symphony was it? And then the radio host gave it away: "Beethoven's tenth symphony, performed by the Bonn Beethoven Orchestra." The tenth?

Weren't there only fragments, sketches, and notes (in comparison to Schubert's "incomplete"

I recently happened to be listening to the radio and Beethoven was on. But it didn't sound to

piece that is only missing the third movement) for that one?! And now, for the 250th anniversary of the composer's birth, a team of musicians and IT experts used an artificial intelligence to create a symphony from all the pieces in the musical style of Beethoven. The first versions from this AI were, however, "not playable", and the endeavor faltered. But then, once man and machine cooperated on it, they could create a concept that was at least performable. What could have been the reason that the artificial intelligence wasn't capable of creating a

the fact that it had never loved and never suffered, never felt anger, disappointment, relief, or joy - human emotions, especially as they had found their way so marvelously into the music of Ludwig van Beethoven.

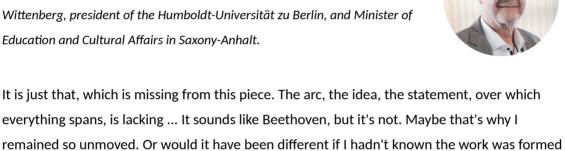
distinct, coherent piece of art from the available set pieces? I think the answer can be found in

Education and Cultural Affairs in Saxony-Anhalt. It is just that, which is missing from this piece. The arc, the idea, the statement, over which everything spans, is lacking ... It sounds like Beethoven, but it's not. Maybe that's why I

by an artificial intelligence? Difficult question ...

Wittenberg, president of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and Minister of

Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz took up the office of IPU Berlin President in July 2021. He was previously head of the Institute for University Research in



There is also definitely something to be said for the composition, for example the inclusion of an organ, which is highly atypical for Beethoven. The computer interpreted certain keystrokes for the piano out of the sketches as if they were meant for an electric organ, which did not exist at the time of the composition's origin. The AI composer "extracted" this kind of creative openness and with it was able to reproduce Beethoven's unconventional style, which even

during his own time provocatively threw out innumerable compositional rules. Actually, the most beautiful part of this project is that it surpassed the limits of artificial intelligence. But what if an AI can actually one day create such an accomplishment? "Well then we're dead and buried," was my daughter's quick response. It would be the sign that artificial intelligence had surpassed human capabilities, even in the aesthetic sense. However, we don't really need to fear that ...

In any case, I am sure that Beethoven would have approved of and supported the experiment,



but probably would have completely flown off the handle at the result.





