

Participation in the conference

## 40 years DISTINCTION

On the relevance of Pierre Bourdieu's theory in culture and inequality research

University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna

Pierre Bourdieu's theory is generally recognized as an advanced great theory and is negotiated as a veritable social theory within the sociological research community as a result of its explanatory scope. The breadth and depth of the theoretical work reflect the subsequent multifaceted and multi-layered discussions with unbroken topicality. The conference on the occasion of Bourdieu's 40th anniversary of his most famous work, *Distinction*, bears witness to this.

The conference at the Vienna University of Music and Performing Arts offered a differentiated picture of a research landscape that critically and productively incorporates the impulses of *Distinction* into current research work. The thematic framing of the contributions took place through the panels "Cultural Consumption and Distinction", "Multidimensional Inequality Relationships", "Power and Emotions" and "Critique and Struggles".

Prof. Dr. Ullrich Bauer ("*Distinction* as sociology of the other society") and Baris Ertugrul ("Schemata of thought, action, perception and (!) emotion?") contributed their own lectures to the latter.

Within the lectures a considerable variance and differentiation of research in connection with the fine differences became visible. The question of musical taste and its distinctiveness value was critically updated and embedded in current empirical findings. A sense for museum visits, leisure activities and eating

culture was also discussed under a sociological lifestyle perspective. Sociological research works on inequality addressed sex workers in Brazil, reproductions of social orders in refugee shelters or classism and culture. Theoretical discussions with Bourdieu under emotional-theoretical conditions as well as the possibility of a critical sociology following *Distinction* ensured the conclusion of a lively and intellectually stimulating conference.

Although the many empirical data of the fine differences have a temporal core, the continuous vitality of this social theory can be confirmed quite impressively in the mirror of the conference.

For further informations:

[www.feine-unterschiede.org](http://www.feine-unterschiede.org)

