Let Us In! The Central Role of the Library

- About the ICI Berlin and the ICI Library
- Opening Statement

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ICI Kulturlabor
ICI Berlin Institute for Cultural Inquiry

• independent centre for culture and research (since 2007)

• research projects, fellowships, events

• facilities: office area, conference area, library

• services: admin, event management, academic coordination + communications, media + it, library services

www.ici-berlin.org
The ICI Library

• research support for ICI Staff and Fellows
• Special Library (Cultural Studies)
• One-Person Library (OPL)
  • OPL Movement (Guy St. Clair 1976ff.)
  • OPL Kommission im Berufsverband BIB e.V.
  • OPL Arbeitskreis BB, at http://oplbb.wordpress.com/
    -> networking is crucial
Library Services

• Print Collection, DVDs
• Access to Online Resources
• Inter-Library Loan Service
• tutorials and staff support (reference service)
• a spacious place for concentration and research
  (and occasional events)

www.ici-berlin.org
How post-digital are we?

• electricity, hot running water - and a fast internet connection
• digitally based library services + communication, W-LAN
• use of all sorts of digital tools and devices
• journals: digital only
• printed books: Yes! -> users with Humanities background, importance of monographs
Limits to digital library services

- e.g. access to online journals and databases: business models are not designed for small libraries/OPL (collections, price policy; proprietary)
  - ICI’s solution: agreement with a partner institution -> access to their Online Library (not a best practice example)
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• e.g. Inter-library loan and ebooks: digital often equals not accessible! (DRM)

- ICI’s “solution”: We fetch the paper version (if available!) ... 😞
ILL: digital = no access!

**Online Fernleihe-Bestellung**

Nachauthentifizierung > Nachrecherche & Leitweg > Bestätigung > Bestellung abgeschlossen

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<tr>
<td>Autor / Hrsg.: Smith, Kel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Titel: Digital Outcasts (Elektronische Ressource)</td>
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<td>Untertitel: Moving Technology Forward without Leaving People Behind</td>
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<td>Jahr: 2013</td>
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Bei diesem Titel handelt es sich um eine **elektronische Ressource** (elektronische Zeitschrift oder E-Book). Mit der Online-Fernleihe können Sie nur die **Printausgabe** dieses Titels bestellen! Wenn nur die elektronische Ausgabe des Titels verfügbar ist, kann keine Bestellung innerhalb der online-Fernleihe aufgegeben werden!
2. Opening Statement

- Before we can get really post-digital, the tension between the technological development and the legal situation needs to be resolved
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• “Let Us In!” makes me think of the people crowding into the libraries: The library as physical place has become increasingly important (learning space and meeting place)
  
  • ... or: libraries begging for admission?

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