

WORKING ALL NIGHT

**Expanding the limits.
Towards a history of working
and waking in the 20th century**

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Technical developments and the availability of electric light in the 19th and 20th century have decisively altered everyday life in modern societies: Mankind entered a permanently changing relationship with never-sleeping machines in ever-lighted spaces, and the night became a time not only for sleeping and dreaming, but also for working, for consuming, for travelling and partying. The talk follows tired soldiers, US-American DJs, German steel workers, flying pilots and small sparrows through their "nights": How did the idea of staying awake and making human resources available around the clock affect our understanding of labor, of time, of the human body and of society as a whole?

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