Marie-Luise Heuser, bio & publications

Marie-Luise Heuser 	Dr. phil. Marie-Luise Heuser (born 1954 in Bensberg, Germany) is a philosopher. She studied philosophy, history, physics and mathematics and obtained her doctorate at the University of Düsseldorf with a thesis on Schelling's philosophy of nature and the new paradigm of self-organization in the natural sciences (1986). She has taught at the Universities of Düsseldorf, Heidelberg, Stuttgart and Braunschweig, and from 2015 to 2020 led the working group "Culture and Spaceflight" at the Institute of Space Systems of the Technical University of Braunschweig. Her research covers the philosophy of spaceflight and its history since antiquity, the history of the concept of self-organization, Renaissance philosophy and science (Nicholas of Cusa, Giordano Bruno, Johannes Kepler), philosophy of nature, metaphysics, philosophy of culture and technology, and the history of psychiatry. She coined the terms "Transterrestrialism" and "Space Poetry". She founded the Kooperationskreis Kultur und Raumfahrt (2004), is managing director of the Gesellschaft für Kultur und Raumfahrt and chairs the DGLR technical committee on Spaceflight and Culture. At Space Renaissance International she is Director of Space Philosophy and History and heads the Space Philosophy & Policy Laboratory of the Space Renaissance Academy.

Education

- Studies of philosophy, history, physics and mathematics; first state examination
- Research assistant to the technology historian Wolfgang König at the VDI (Association of German Engineers); co-author of the VDI history volume "Technik, Ingenieure und Gesellschaft" (1981)
- 1986 - Doctorate (Dr. phil.), University of Düsseldorf, supervised by Wolfram Hogrebe and Alois Huning: "Die Produktivität der Natur" (The Productivity of Nature), on Schelling's philosophy of nature and self-organization

Academic career

- Since 1986 - Teaching at the Universities of Düsseldorf and Heidelberg
- 1993-1995 - Research associate, Collaborative Research Centre 230 "Natural Constructions", University of Stuttgart, with Hermann Haken, Arne Wunderlin and Frei Otto: history of the concept of self-organization
- Research on the history of psychiatry at the Düsseldorf University Hospital
- 2002-2015 - Research associate, Seminar for Philosophy, Technische Universität Braunschweig; 2005-2010 head of the lecture series "Culture and Spaceflight", with more than sixty speakers
- 2008 - Co-curator of the exhibition "Zero G - der Artronaut Charles Wilp", Braunschweig University of Art, with the conferences "Planetarische Perspektiven" and "Das Raumschiff"
- 2015-2020 - Head of the working group "Culture and Spaceflight", Institute of Space Systems, TU Braunschweig

Space Renaissance International

- Director of Space Philosophy and History (board member since 2023, re-elected at the 4th World Congress, July 2026)
- Head of the Space Philosophy & Policy Laboratory of the Space Renaissance Academy (since 2022)
- Member of the SRI delegation to UN COPUOS (observer status since June 2024)
- Speaker in the Space Renaissance Academy Webinar Series, including "Space Romanticism" (SRIC4 #11), "Space Enthusiasm: Cultural History of the Early Space Pioneers in Germany during the Weimar Republic", "From Renaissance to Space Age" and "Transterrestrialism in the Renaissance and its importance for today's space philosophy"

Other roles and recognition

- Since 2004 - Founder of the international Kooperationskreis Kultur und Raumfahrt; since 2010 managing director of the Gesellschaft für Kultur und Raumfahrt e.V.
- Since 2020 - Chair of the DGLR (German Society for Aeronautics and Astronautics) technical committee on Spaceflight and Culture
- 1990 - NRW Research Prize; Lise Meitner Fellowship of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia
- 2022 - "Transterrestrialism" and "Space Poetry", terms she coined, registered as word marks by the EUIPO

Books and edited volumes

- "Die Produktivität der Natur" (The Productivity of Nature), Duncker & Humblot, Berlin, 1986
- "Schelling und die Selbstorganisation. Neue Forschungsperspektiven" (Schelling and Self-Organization), ed. with Wilhelm G. Jacobs, Duncker & Humblot, Berlin, 1994
- "Erbbiologische Selektion und Euthanasie. Psychiatrie in Düsseldorf während des Nationalsozialismus" (Psychiatry in Düsseldorf under National Socialism), ed. with Frank Sparing, Klartext, Essen, 2001
- "Raumontologie und Raumfahrt um 1600 und um 1900" (Ontology of Space and Spaceflight around 1600 and 1900), Tübingen, 2016
- "Der Mensch ist nicht nur für die Erde da. Schellings Philosophie des Weltraums" (Man Is Not Only for the Earth: Schelling's Philosophy of Space), guest editor of Schelling-Studien vol. 8, Alber, 2020

Selected papers

- Adriano V. Autino, Alfred Anzaldua, Amalie Sinclair, Bernard Foing, Marie-Luise Heuser, Frank White, Werner Grandl - "Space 4 All, Space 4 Peace, a Space 18th SDG for the 2030 U.N. Agenda", IAC 75, Milan, 2024
- Adriano V. Autino et Al, with Marie-Luise Heuser - "A SRI position paper on the key critical factors towards 2030", 2024
- "Space Culture and Space Philosophy", 73rd International Astronautical Congress, Paris, 2022
- "Zur Philosophie der Raumfahrt von Günther Anders" (Günther Anders's Philosophy of Spaceflight), in "Die Raumfahrt der Gesellschaft", transcript, 2021
- "Husserls Phänomenologie des Fliegens" (Husserl's Phenomenology of Flying), Böhlau, 2020
- "Return to the Moon" / "Rückkehr zum Mond", Earth System Knowledge Platform, 2019
- "Space Philosophy. Schelling and the Mathematicians of the 19th Century", Angelaki 21(4), Routledge, 2016
- "Autopoiese und Synergetik. Konzepte der Selbstorganisation" (Autopoiesis and Synergetics), Fink, 2016
- "The Significance of Naturphilosophie for Justus and Hermann Grassmann", Birkhäuser, 2011
- "Russischer Kosmismus und extraterrestrischer Suprematismus" (Russian Cosmism and Extraterrestrial Suprematism), in "Planetarische Perspektiven", Marburg, 2009
- "Transterrestrik in der Renaissance: Nikolaus von Kues, Giordano Bruno und Johannes Kepler" (Transterrestrial Thought in the Renaissance), transcript, 2008
- "Die Anfänge der Topologie in Mathematik und Naturphilosophie" (The Beginnings of Topology), transcript, 2007
- "Mathematik und Zeit im 19. Jahrhundert" (Mathematics and Time in the 19th Century), WBG, 1997
- "Keplers Theorie der Selbststrukturierung von Schneeflocken" (Kepler's Theory of the Self-Structuring of Snowflakes), Duncker & Humblot, 1992
- "Schelling's Concept of Selforganization", Springer, 1992
- "Georg Cantors transfinite Zahlen und Giordano Brunos Unendlichkeitsidee" (Cantor's Transfinite Numbers and Bruno's Idea of Infinity), Duncker & Humblot, 1991
- "Schellings Organismusbegriff und seine Kritik des Mechanismus und Vitalismus" (Schelling's Concept of Organism), Allgemeine Zeitschrift für Philosophie, 1989

Marie-Luise Heuser on Wikipedia (German)