This workshop aims at examining the centrality of the body in the narration, representation, experience and understanding of the First World War. It will take into account individual bodies in war, as they were compelled in the trenches, wounded, dispersed, exhausted, mutilated, or killed. As well, it will consider how those bodies came to symbolize the national community as a whole. Therefore, the workshop approaches the topic by paying attention to both the war and the home front, to both wartime and post-war societies. The main idea is to involve historians, art historians and visual culture historians to reflect upon specific key-questions concerning the representation of bodies during and after the First World War.
Thursday, 9 June, 10.30–19.00

10.30  Martin Baumeister | Roma
       Welcome

10.40  Martina Salvante | Roma
       Introduction

I - The Male Body Revisited
Chair: Annette Becker | Paris

11.00  Sarah Kinzel | Berlin
       Expulsion from Paradise. Representations of the Human Body in Early 20th Century Painting

11.30  Monica Cioli | Roma
       From Man at War to Machine Man. The Evolution of the Body in the 1920s

12.15  Coffee Break

12.30  Flavia Marcello | Melbourne
       Art, Architecture and the Body of the Soldier in Marcello Piacentini’s Casa Madre dei Mutilati in Rome

13.15  Lunch Break

II - Memorializing the Body
Chair: Martina Salvante | Roma

14.30  Martin Baumeister | Roma
       Filling the Big Void: Mourning Fallen Soldiers and the Thirst of Representation

15.00  Paolo Nicoloso | Trieste
       Memory Strategies: Ossuaries on the Eastern Italian Border

18.00  Keynote Lecture
       Michael Diers | Berlin
       Fragments. Politics and Aesthetics of the Body in Pieces

19.00  Reception

Friday, 10 June, 10.00–13.30

III - Wounded and Dead Bodies
Chair: Martin Baumeister | Roma

10.00  Alessandro Faccioli | Padova
       Landscapes of Death in the Italian WWI Cinema

10.30  Marjorie Gehrhardt | Reading
       The Face of War: Repairing Gueules Cassées, Rebuilding Society

11.30  Coffee Break

11.45  Bernd Huppauf | New York, Berlin
       Images between Ethics and Aesthetics – Mutilated Bodies after World War I

12.15  Annette Becker | Paris
       To Photography, to Camouflage, to Draw: Images of a War of Bodies, 1914–2014

12.45  Final Discussion

13.30  Lunch Break