

The Principle of Disjunction: to the Mothers – into the Depth

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Last year the magazine *Nature* published an article, which characterizes current microscopy with the words: "As non-optical microscopes probe ever deeper into the once invisible world, viewers are further and further removed from reality". Regarding the history of microscopy the visibility of the invisible seemed to be a crucial quality from the beginning. This aspect was also a reason for technical developments in this field. The lecture will try to find a historical foundation for the *principle of disjunction*: Pictures in science are all the more constructed as they appear natural. This ambiguity could also show how natural science and historical Bildwissenschaft (Picture Studies) are genuinely linked to each other.