



**– Institute's Colloquium –**

**Dr. Jens Kreinath  
Wichita State University**

**Aesthetic of Interreligious Soundscapes: The Antakya Choir of Civilizations and its Representation of Religious Traditions through Musical Performances**

Founded in 2007, the Antakya Choir of Civilizations presents a unique example of what can be called an aesthetic of interreligious soundscapes. By combining various musical traditions of different religious traditions, the choir represents through musical performances the religious diversity of the southernmost part of Turkey. By blending the aesthetics of different religious traditions, the Choir of Civilization transforms local musical styles and appeals to a global audience. Due to its success—with governmental support—the recognition of this choir extended far beyond Antakya (formerly Antioch) and the borders of Turkey. It performed in numerous cities in Europe and North America and gave over more than 200 concerts since 2007. It was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011 and featured in national Turkish television in 2014. The talk will reconstruct the local dynamics in the formation of the Choir of Civilizations within the social and cultural milieu of Antakya. In doing so it will particularly focus on the aesthetic of interreligious soundscapes employed in the choir's performances in Turkey and abroad.

**on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2014**

**4-6 p.m.**

**Institute of Ethnology  
Stadtstraße 21, Raum STU 105 (2.10)  
Everybody is welcome!**