

CONFERENCE #3

DEATH "MATTERS": THE (IM)MATERIAL AND THE SENSORY IN DEATH IN MIGRATION



Ai Weiwei - Remains, 2015 (Courtesy Neugerriemschneider and the artist)

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

JANUARY 7-9, 2024

THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY
OF HONG KONG,
HONG KONG

Project Co-convenors

Dr Bidisha Banerjee, International Research Centre for Cultural Studies, The Education University of Hong Kong

Dr Thomas Lacroix, Sciences Po-CERI

Prof Judith Misrahi-Barak, EMMA, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3

PROGRAMME

JANUARY 7TH, SUNDAY

10:00–12:15

Visit to Tsz Shan Monastery

16:00–18:30

Conference Opening and Reception at Videotage

(Unit 13, Cattle Depot Artist Village, 63 Ma Tau Kok Road,
To Kwa Wan, Hong Kong)

Guest of Honour: Professor John Nguyet Erni, Chair
Professor of Cultural Studies; Director, IRCCS and Dean,
Faculty of Humanities, EdUHK

Freya Powell (The New School)

Notes on Voice

Sound Installation by Freya Powell

Spaces of Exploration

Reception

JANUARY 8TH, MONDAY

09:00–09:30

Conference Registration

09:30–09:45

Opening Remarks

Guest of Honour: Professor Cheng, May Hung May, Vice President
(Academic) and Chair Professor of Teacher Education, EdUHK

Co-convenors: Bidisha Banerjee (The Education University of Hong
Kong), Judith Misrahi-Barak (Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3) and
Thomas Lacroix (Sciences Po-CERI)

09:45–11:15

Panel 1

Chair: Thomas Lacroix

Cédric Courtois (University of Lille)

“Let’s throw one of the corpses so they can see what state we’re in!”:
Thanatic Ethics and the Sensory in Abu Bakr Khaal’s African Titanics
(2014[2008])

Yumna Masarwa (American College of the Mediterranean)

Materiality and Auditorium of the ‘Body of the Dead’:

The Case of French Muslims based on Participant Observation with
Muslim Corpse Washers

Sealing Cheng (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Managing a Death in Exile – cosmologies, power, and moral burden

11:15–11:30

Coffee Break

11:30–13:00

Panel 2

Chair: Bidisha Banerjee

**Florence Galmiche (Université Paris Cité) and
Carolina Kobelinsky (University of Paris Nanterre)**

Resonant Narratives: Sensing the Wandering Souls of Korean Forced-Workers and African Border-Crossers

Sanghamitra Dalal (Universiti Teknologi MARA)

Requiem for Reclamation: Storying Otherwise in Cecile Pin's
Wandering Souls

Judith Misrahi-Barak (Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3)

Drifting as Comprehension: Immersing oneself in Anuk
Arudpragasam's *A Passage North*

13:00–14:30

Lunch

14:30–16:00

Keynote 1 (via ZOOM)

Chair: Judith Mishrahi-Barak

Catherine Bernard (Université Paris Cité)

Seeing / Sensing (Dis)appearance: Contemporary Art's Poetics of
Complication

16:00–16:15

Coffee Break

16:15–17:45

Panel 3

Chair: Yumna Masarwa

Alan Rice (University of Central Lancashire)

"What Remains of the Remains": The Afterlives of Black Bodies in the
African Atlantic Imagination

Jaine Chemmachery (Sorbonne Université)

"Zong! is Song": Embodied Performances as Augmented Rituals of
Death

Jenna Ann Altomonte (Mississippi State University)

Thanatic Ethics and the Politics of Serious Gaming

- 09:30-09:45 **Conference Registration**
- 09:45-11:15 **Panel 4**
Chair: Alan Rice
Thomas Lacroix (Sciences Po-CERI)
The Sensoriality of Thanatic Ethics: How Representations of Death Imbue Perceptions of Migratory Spaces
Kaia Rønsdal (University of Oslo)
Your Brother's Blood is Crying Out to Me from the Ground
Justine Feyereisen (Ghent University)
Utopia and Migrant Rights through Literature
- 11:15-11:30 **Coffee Break**
- 11:30-13:00 **Keynote 2:**
Chair: Bidisha Banerjee
Edwige Tamalet (Tulane University School of Liberal Arts)
Bodily Utterances: Sensoria of Exposure
- 13:00-14:30 **Lunch**
- 14:30-16:00 **Panel 5**
Chair: Justine Feyereisen
Paolo Boccagni (University of Trento)
Coping with the absence that is always present: Sensorial Traces and Impingements of Death in the Everyday Lives of Young West African Migrants in Europe
Nabil Ferdaoussi (University of Cape Town)
The Right to Look For: Reclaiming Corporal Materiality of the Missing through Visual Activism and Visionary Clairvoyance
Corina Stan (Duke University)
The Ethics of Narrative Care in the Work of Abdulrazak Gurnah
- 16:00-16:15 **Coffee Break**
- 16:15-17:45 **Film Screening Dialogue**
Chair: Yumna Masawara
Film screening of ASMAT: Names in Memory of All Victims of the Sea followed by dialogue with director Dagmawi Yimer (via Zoom)
- 18:30-21:00 **Conference Dinner**