

# "DEATH AND MIGRATION IN TIMES OF CONFLICT: A FORENSIC PERSPECTIVE"



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

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

**OCTOBER 17-19, 2024**  
**SCIENCES PO**  
**PARIS, FRANCE**

**Sciences Po, Campus St. Thomas**  
**Les Salons Scientifiques**

**17-18 Oct - 09:30 to 18:00**  
**and 19 Oct - 09:30 to 12:30**

### Project Convenors

Dr. Bidisha Banerjee, International Research Centre for Cultural Studies, The Education University of Hong Kong  
Dr. Thomas Lacroix and Mohamed El Sayeh, Sciences Po, Paris  
Prof. Judith Misrahi-Barak, EMMA, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3

### Local organisers

Thomas Lacroix (Sciences Po, Paris) and Mohamed El Sayeh (Sciences Po, Paris)

## DAY 1 : OCTOBER 17TH, THURSDAY

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- 09:00 **Registration**
- 09:30 **Opening**
- 10:00–11:00 **Panel 1 : Border Forensics**  
Chair: Filippo Furri  
Cristina Del Biaggio: From Blessing Matthew’s Case to Systemic Border Violence and Deaths Disentangling Responsibilities and Risks through Forensics Architecture Approach  
Camilla Fojas: Media Forensics of Death on the US–Mexico Border
- 11:00–11:30 **Coffee Break**
- 11:30–13:00 **CORTEM / Institut Médico-Légal de Paris Round Table: Forensics in Action: A Conversation on the Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) Protocol**  
Chair: Nicolas Fischer  
Bertrand Ludes (forensic pathologist, IML)  
Tania Delabarde (forensic anthropologist, IML)  
Florence Galmiche (social anthropologist, UP Cité/ IUF/CCJ)  
José Luis Prieto (forensic pathologist, Forensic Pathology Service, Madrid)
- 13:00–14:00 **Lunch**
- 14:00–15:30 **Panel 2: Body Traces: Memory and Hope**  
Chair: Cristina Del Biaggio  
Emily Askew and Kaia S. Rønsdal: The Cruelty of Intangibility and the Power of Forensic Hope  
Nives Ladina: ‘The Drowned and the Saved’: A view on the Embedded Memories of Conflict and Racial Discrimination among Migrant Victims of Torture and Intentional Violence in Sicily, Italy  
Giorgia Mirto: Beyond Bodies: Rethinking Forensic Practices in Border Deaths
- 15:30–16:00 **Coffee Break**
- 16:00–17:30 **Panel 3: Gaza One Year On: First Rights, Last Rights and Funerary Rites**  
Chair: Laurent Bonnefoy  
Catriona Jarvis: Last Rights: Reflections on International Law, Death and Bereavement in Gaza  
Yumna Masarwa: Wartime Impact on Funerary Rites in Gaza  
Syd Bolton: First Rights: Reflections on International Law, Death and Bereavement in Gaza

## DAY 2 : OCTOBER 18TH, FRIDAY

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09:30–11:30

### **Panel 4: The Thanatic Politics of Burial**

Chair: Carolina Kobelinsky

Alan Rice: African American Mutiny, Riot and Death in a Lancashire Village: The Strange and Inspiring Battle of Bamber Bridge and its Commemoration

Inès Baude: Documenting migration and persecution by marble. The case study of Jewish migrants' Collective Burials at the Parisian Cemetery of Bagneux from the Interwar Period to the Present Day

Arkadi Zaides and Christel Stalpaert: Spectral Infrastructure Revealed Counter Forensic Processes at Necropolis (United)

11:30–11:45

### **Coffee Break**

11:45–13:00

### **Keynote 1: Adam Rosenblatt: Cemetery Citizenship and Thanatic Ethics: Revising Burial Grounds in a World on the Move**

Chair: Bidisha Banerjee

13:00–14:00

### **Lunch**

14:00–15:00

### **Panel 5: Memories of Conflict in South Asia**

Chair: Bidisha Banerjee

Rahul Gairola: From Partition Necropolitics to Digital Biopolitics. Reincarnation of Resistance in Online Archival Narratives of the 1947 Partition Archive

Angshuman Kar: Marichjhapi, Oral History and Forensic Aesthetics: Reading Deep Halder's Blood Island

15:00–15:30

### **Coffee Break**

15:30–17:00

### **Writer Keynote: Mirza Waheed: Conjuring death and Mourning in Exile**

Chair: Judith Misrahi-Barak

20:00

### **Conference Dinner**

## DAY 3 : OCTOBER 19TH, SATURDAY

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10:00–11:00

### **Panel 6: Narrating Massacres**

Chair: Yumna Masarwa

Cédric Courtois: “[T]he charred body of a dead man whose head has morphed into something gory”: The Poetics and Politics of Death in Chigozie Obioma’s *The Road to the Country* (2024)

Karim Daanoun: “Destiny has been derailed”—War and Massacre in Etel Adnan’s *The Arab Apocalypse*

11:00–11:30

### **Coffee Break**

11:30–12:45

### **Gaspard Njock and Félicien de Heusch: Exile and After: a book launch and a live performance and discussion around the graphic novel**

Chairs and Readers: Thomas Lacroix, Marianne Dugeon and Judith Misrahi-Barak

12:45–13:00

### **Concluding remarks and end of the conference**

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### **Institutional partners:**

Centre for International Studies, Sciences Po, Paris

The Education University of Hong Kong

International Research Centre for Cultural Studies, EdUHK

Department of Literature and Cultural Studies, EdUHK

EMMA (Paul Valéry University Montpellier 3)

The Institut Convergences Migrations

The Corps-Témoins ANR programme (CORTEM)