

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE RESPONSE, REPAIR, TRANSFORMATION



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

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DECEMBER 12-14, 2022

JADUNATH BHAVAN
MUSEUM AND
RESOURCE CENTRE

Project Co-convenors

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

Dr. Thomas Lacroix, Sciences Po-CERI/Maison Française d'Oxford

Dr. Judith Misrahi-Barak, EMMA, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3

PROGRAMME

DECEMBER 12TH, MONDAY

- 14:00–14:15 **Registration**
- 14:15–15:15 **Welcoming Speech**
By Bidisha Banerjee, Thomas Lacroix and Judith Misrahi-Barak
Presentation of the Thanatic Ethics Project and of the Special Issue of *Interventions*
- 15:30–16:45 **Keynote Address by Miriam Ticktin (CUNY Graduate Center)**
Borders and Commons: The Struggle over Political Imagination
Chair: Bidisha Banerjee
- 16:45–17:00 **Coffee Break**
- 17:00–18:15 **Keynote Address by Deepak Unnikrishnan (NYU Abu Dhabi)**
There Used to be Old People: A Writer's Keynote
Chair: Judith Misrahi-Barak

DECEMBER 13TH, TUESDAY

- 10:00–11:30 **The Representational Crisis of Death in Migration**
Chair: Justine Feyereisen
Markus Arnold (University of Cape Town)
Uncertain spaces, floating temporalities: Deleuzian disjunction and ecopoetics in *Borders* by Jean- Michel André and Wilfried N'Sondé
Félicien de Heusch (University of Liège)
Building dialogues between ethnography and graphic novel around African migrants' death in Europe
Nandini Dhar (OP Jindal Global University)
Beyond Sentimentality: Jamlo Makdam, Covid-19 Lockdown and the Crisis of Representation of Migrant Workers' Deaths in Indian Media

- 11:30–11:45 **Coffee Break**
- 11:45–13:00 **Keynote Address by Udaya Kumar (Jawaharlal Nehru University)**
Death, History and the Destitute Present: Reflections on Recent Fiction from Kerala
Chair: Nandini Dhar
- 13:00–14:00 **Lunch Break**
- 14:00–15:00 **Body Materiality and Mourning**
Chair: Markus Arnold
Sanjukta Naskar (Janki Devi Memorial College)
Marichjhapi: The Massacre Within
Songayam Zimik (University of Delhi)
The Naga Migrants' Response to Death: Nostalgia and its Role in Jim Kasom's *Homecoming* and *Short Stories*
- 15:00–16:00 **Migrant Hauntology**
Chair: Alexandra Délano Alonso
Paolo Boccagni (University of Trento)
Where should it be, and what should it look like? Mapping migrant imaginaries, moralities and aesthetics about their "final homes"
Gargi Dutta (University of North Bengal)
Reading Death, Transformation and Ethics in Select Kala Pani Narratives
- 16:00–16:15 **Coffee Break**
- 16:15–17:45 **Crossing the Kala Pani**
Chair: Judith Misrahi-Barak
Suparna Sengupta (University of Cambridge)
Eros and Thanatos: Bodies in Incarceration in Andaman Penal Colony
Praveen Mirdha (Government Girls' College, Ajmer)
'Whispers of Immortality' from *Kalapani* Crossing: Recovering Female Bodies from 'Zones of Indistinction'
Raj Kumar Thakur (Assam University)
Journey of the Coolie: Disease, Death and The Politics of 'Care'

DECEMBER 14TH, WEDNESDAY

10:00–11:30 **Rites, Rights and Activism**

Chair: Miriam Ticktin

Cédric Courtois (University of Lille)

Forms of Care and Solidarity in Olumide Popoola and Annie Holmes's *Breach* (2016)

Florence Laldinpuii (IIT Delhi)

'Salvage his bones': Insurgent Deaths and the Ontological Commitment to the Dead through the lens of *Mizo Rambuai* Narratives

AlKhoder AlKhalifa (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Staging Activism, Writing the Precarious: Death, Migration/Refugeehood and the Dilemma of Literary Activist in Hassan Blasim's *Digital Hats Game*

11:30–11:45 **Coffee Break**

11:45–13:00 **Keynote Address by Alexandra Délano Alonso and Benjamin Nienass (The New School and Montclair State University)**

Public Grief and Political Transformation

Chair: Thomas Lacroix

13:00–14:00 **Lunch Break**

14:00–15:30 **Care and Repair**

Chair: Udaya Kumar

Alexis Tadié (Sorbonne University)

Writing as Repair: Hisham Matar and the Trauma of Disappearance

Justine Feyereisen (Ghent University)

Migrant Deaths, Rights, Repair in Transatlantic Literature

Bidisha Banerjee (Education University of Hong Kong)

Spectrality and Thanatic Ethics of Care

15:30–16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:00–17:00 **Concluding Remarks and Looking Forward**

by Bidisha Banerjee, Thomas Lacroix and Judith Misrahi-Barak

18:30 **Conference Dinner**