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At this year's workshop, a diverse line up of scholars, artists, writers and thinkers ask if it is possible to establish a new vision of universality through pluriversality. Can diverse epistemologies be recognized and honored while also potentially revealing glimpses of universality that can contribute to a sense of shared space and time necessary to address the needs of the globalized present? Keep an eye on the website for the programme. The keynotes are scheduled as follows:

Messling (Käte Hamburger Centre CURE / Saarland University): *Tragic Universalism: The Case of Champollion* | May 26, 09:15-10:45

Dr. Ruth Clemens (Leiden University) | May 26, 11:00-12:30

Prof. dr. Barnita Bagchi (University of Amsterdam)

"A place of truth, discomfort and safety. A home where words and story reside": Universality in Entangled Literary Worlds May 27, 09:15-10:45

Dr. Paulo Lemos Horta (NYU Abu Dhabi)

Universal Literature in an Age of Nationalism | May 28, 09:00–10:30

ASCA BORREL 28 MAY 2025, 5 PM

All ASCA Members and Friends are invited to the ASCA Summer Drinks on May 28th, 2025 at 5 pm. Venue t.b.a.. And, also to be announced: the 2025 ASCA Awards! Save the date!

DISSERTATION DEFENSE: PENGAN HU

Derailing the Belt and Road: Film, Social Media Screen Culture, and Globalization from China.

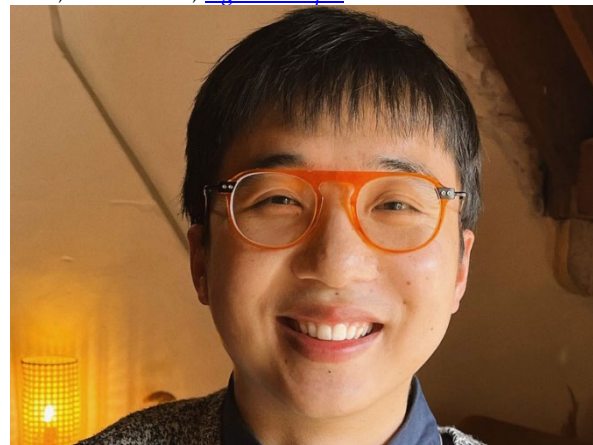
Supervisors: Jeroen de Kloet en Patricia Pisters | 19 mei 2025, 14:00 -15:30, [Agnietenkapel](#).

RE-IMAGINING UNIVERSALITY IN THE PLURIVERSE

ASCA International Workshop May 26-28, 2025 | Organizers: Laila Bouziane & Serra Hughes | Contact: ascaworkshop2025@gmail.com

ASCA Workshop 2025 is a three-day in-person event taking place in Amsterdam, Netherlands. Open to all, we have an engaging and exciting group of presenters, keynote speakers, and artistic workshops.

Artistic/interactive workshops will be led by Dr Jennifer Couch, an art-science practitioner and researcher working in sculpture, textiles, installation and image-making, and Siobhan Wall-Suleyman, an Amsterdam based artist, writer and curator who works in and beyond traditional gallery spaces.



This PhD project examines the cultural dimensions of China's flagship geopolitical initiative—the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Rather than offering a comprehensive account of a meticulously planned project, the focus lies in how the BRI is continually derailed, particularly through its negotiation and contestation within the cinematic sector.

To trace these derailments, the project first situates the BRI within China's broader globalization strategy from a cultural perspective. By exploring why the initiative is named after the ancient Silk Road, it reveals how the BRI embodies China's new imagination of globalization. Building on this premise, the project also answers why such a new vision of globalization is so strongly desired — highlighting a shift in the country's cultural confidence.

Although China's imagined globalization may appear coherent in official discourse, my research also shows how it becomes fragmented in practice. For instance, at events such as the Silk Road International Film Festival, state narratives are met with competing actors pursuing their own agendas. I argue that such derailments are not only common but inevitable. In today's globalized world, China must frequently negotiate and compromise. It is precisely these moments of negotiation, contestation, and creative resistance that form the heart of this study.

DISSERTATION DEFENSE: YVETTE (LOK YEE) WONG

Wenyi and Its Discontents: A Study of Creative Practices and Politics in Hong Kong | 22 May 2025, Agnietenkapel, 10.00 hrs. | Supervisors: Jeroen) de Kloet, Leonie Schmidt



"Time will pass while our voice will last," I titled the conclusion of this project with this line of lyrics, which I wrote in 2022. This line points to a key question of this project: How and when is *wenyi* politically engaged in the protests in Hong Kong? With the accelerating

integration into China, and a definite return to Beijing looming in the year 2047 (Sino-British Declaration 1984), the future is increasingly unspeakable. Whilst it is often claimed that the future belongs to the young, a group of young literary practitioners, *wenyi*, have been involved in and struggling with, if not failing, their engagement with the anti- Extradition Law Amendment Bill movement in Hong Kong. This project asks when and how the creative practices of this group of *wenyi* practitioners— ranging from flash mobs to art, and from music to poetry – and politics intersect during the Anti-ELAB protests.

ASCA GUEST RESEARCHER: MONICA BAPTISTE GOUFFRAY



Monica Baptiste Gouffray is media researcher and film producer, graduate of the Research Master in Media Studies, University of Amsterdam. Currently she works coordinating the funding and training programs at the International Documentary Film Festival of Amsterdam. Monica has worked as a film producer and writer in Colombia. Her current research focuses on decolonial studies and the interplay between history, memory and media, particularly in the Latin American context.

ENLENS GRANT ALICE FLEERACKERS

Engaging Citizens with Sustainable Solutions: Exploring the Effects and Professional Perceptions of Solutions Journalism in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals

This project is part of the priority area 'Energy transition through the lens of Sustainable Developments Goals' (ENLENS) and is a collaboration with the FMG (ASCoR). Solutions journalism offers a constructive alternative to conventional problem-focused news

reporting, which tends to emphasize the news values of negativity and conflict. This project investigates whether and how solutions journalism can more effectively engage citizens with complex societal challenges that are central to the energy transition and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We focus on how news coverage of SDG-related issues—particularly those connected to clean energy (SDG 7), climate action (SDG 13), and inequality (SDG 10)—can activate public interest and mobilize audiences toward more informed and constructive engagement.

CLIMATE IMAGINARIES: PRACTICING UBUNTU

Seminar 2 in the Climate Imaginaries Seminar Series organized by Laura Cull | 30 April, 5-7pm | Guest speaker: Wakanyi Hoffman | ASCA Respondent: John Taukave | Location: OMHP room C 023

Imagine a world without enough clean drinking water, a world where fresh water rivers and lakes have dried up, leaving parched lands in their wake and life forms struggling, their vitality stifled. Such a world mirrors a society without Ubuntu—void of the profound inner connection that binds humanity. In this talk, "Practicing Ubuntu for Collective Flourishing," I draw upon the African ancestral intelligence of Ubuntu to explore the intertwined relationship between people, land, and water. I invite you to journey through the undercurrents of Ubuntu—a philosophy that asserts, "I am because of who we all are"—and its application to modern challenges like AI innovation and its threat to fresh water access.

[Wakanyi Hoffman](#) is a storyteller, author, keynote speaker specialized in Ubuntu philosophy, a scholar of indigenous knowledge, and narrative weaver of wisdom in AI. Wakanyi is the leader of the [African folktales project](#). She is currently an academic fellow at [The New Institute](#) in Hamburg as part of the program on ['Conceptions of Human Flourishing.'](#)

FOUNDATION MODELS: TECHNICAL, ETHICAL, AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Date/time: May 6, 2025 (15:00-17:00) | Location: Institute for Advanced Study (IAS), Oude Turfmarkt 145-147, Amsterdam | Speakers: Mohammad Mahdi and Bernhard Rieder | Organizers: Claudio Celis Bueno and Nanne van Noord

In this session Mohammad Mahdi and Bernhard Rieder will discuss the transformative potential of so-called "foundation models" by focusing on a series of perspectives including their technical mechanisms, promised applications, ethical considerations, and economic implications. Rather than taking the transformative potential of these technology for granted, this session will examine how these transformative potentials are discursively,

economically, and technically produced. The session will also examine how AI technologies are becoming "platforms" and why this matters for critical analysis.

Registration required (limited spaces): <https://ias.uva.nl/content/events/2025/05/foundation-models-technical-ethical-and-economic-implications.html>

ASCA PHD WRITING CAFÉ

An informal and supportive space dedicated to advancing your dissertation progress. Work alongside fellow PhD researchers, share insights, and pursue your writing goals in a focused and friendly environment away. | Organized by Shekoufeh Behbehani, Luc Marraffa, and Joe van der Eerden. 7 May 2025, 10:00 -15:00, P.C. Hoofthuis, Room 3.19 | 14 May, 10:00-15:00, University Library, Vondelzaal | 21 May, 10:00-15:00, PCH 4.34 | 27 May, 10:00-15:00, PCH 1.14.

Whether you are drafting chapters, revising sections, or simply looking for accountability, this space offers encouragement, motivation, and a sense of community. Each session held weekly on Wednesdays from 10:00 to 15:00, begins with a brief check-in and ends with time to discuss writing challenges and share strategies. Let's make dissertation writing less solitary and more productive together.

DECOLONIZING THE UNIVERSITY IN CONTEXT

Working Through and In Impossibility

This workshop, facilitated by Ahmed Raza Memon, explains and problematizes projects on 'Decolonizing' and emphasizes the contextualisation of this conversation in recent years.

7 May 2025, 10:00 -12:00, Roeterseiland Campus Law Faculty, Building A | room A3.15

Drawing from the facilitator's direct experience in higher education, it looks at different types of decolonizing projects — those driven by institutions and those that emerge organically from grassroots efforts.

A key focus will be recognizing the tension between these two approaches, as this is essential to understanding the challenges and limitations of doing decolonizing work within academic institutions.

The session will help participants think through the difficulties of having productive conversations about decolonization. It will address feelings of alienation, deep distrust and antagonism towards lack of institutional honesty.

The workshop is especially welcoming to those who are new to these discussions and are looking for ways to start them in spaces where decolonizing work is still seen as marginal or politically sensitive.

In the workshop, Participants will engage with:

- What "decolonizing" means in the context of higher education

- Different approaches to decolonizing — led by staff, students, or both
 - The role of belonging and community in decolonizing movements
 - Negotiating with the ‘impossibility of decolonization’ in and through the institution
 - A participation exercise on building and thinking through Principles
 - A discussion on contextualising Decolonizing UvA
- This workshop is organized in collaboration with the FdR Diversity Committee and the Graduate Studies Committee.*
- [Register for the workshop here](#) [If you have questions or trouble signing up, please email \[decolonialfutures@uva.nl\]\(mailto:decolonialfutures@uva.nl\)](#)

THE CIRCUITS OF TELEVISION. HISTORIES, TECHNOLOGIES, IMAGINARIES

International Conference University of Lausanne, Switzerland, May 7-9, 2025 organized by Marie Sandoz, Anne-Katrin Weber (University of Lausanne), and Markus Stauff (ASCA)

Television has been conceived as a mass medium that broadcasts a linear program flow to a wide and anonymous domestic audience. Occasionally, the medium is praised for its power of dissemination; more often, it is criticized for centralized transmission of indiscriminate content to distracted or passive viewers. Television, in this perspective, lacks any kind of direct feedback mechanism.

In this conference, we want to rethink television history and theory by focusing on the medium’s circuits and multiple loops. This shift in perspective brings to our attention television’s technological flexibility and interrelations with other media, as well as its sprawling, often hidden, cultural, industrial, and political productivity. Taking as a starting point the *Circuits of Television*, this conference also aims to inquire the much-overlooked connection between the history of computing, cybernetics, video art, ecology and system theory – where circuits and feedback loops are key concepts – and television’s historiography. Television’s constant shape shifting (e.g. through video and remote control, through satellite and cable) generates new apparatuses and new imaginaries of circuits’ applicability across these different domains. In short, past and present ideas, practices, and apparatuses of television encompass multiple loops.

This international and bilingual (French/English) conference is part of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) sponsored research project on *Operational TV. Audiovisual Closed-Circuits from the Military to the Classroom, 1930s-1990s* led at the University of Lausanne by Anne-Katrin Weber, and co-organized with the Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis. The keynote will be given by Prof. Kit Hugues

(Colorado State University) whose recent monograph *Television at Work. Industrial Media and American Labor* (2020) explores how American businesses appropriated television as a “workplace medium” supporting industrial efficiency, ideological orientation, and corporate expansion.

Full program: <https://wp.unil.ch/collectif-televiseuel/recherches/operative-tv/les-circuits-de-la-television/>

For online participation enroll by mail to m.stauff@uva.nl.

LONG COVID+ ROUND TABLE: WAYS FORWARD FOR THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

Long Covid+ Conversations organized by Eva Meijer | Online, 8 PM CEST

Speakers: Suzanne, Judith de Hont and micah marissa from Feminists Against Ableism, and others TBA. | Registration: asca-fgw@uva.nl

SUPRANATIONALISM FROM BELOW

Civil Society and Continental Integration in Africa

This is the third event in the Decolonial Futures Masterclass Series, featuring professor Babatunde Fagbayibo (University of Pretoria). 25 May 2025, 13:00-15:00 | REC B 2.03.

How do actors connect to co-shape the move from transnational relations to continental supranationalism in Africa?

Join our scholar in residence **Babatunde Fagbayibo** for an engaging masterclass that explores this question. In recent years, efforts have been made to endow the continental integration process in Africa with supranational powers. However, these official measures have mostly excluded civil society.

This masterclass explores the various ways in which organised and broader civil society express their support for supranationalism in informal ways. These informal actions include a wide range of conscious and unconscious efforts by non-state actors to push for deeper continental integration and shape shared imaginaries for the future. These informal actions include a wide range of conscious and unconscious efforts by non-state actors to push for deeper continental integration and shape shared visions for the future.

The masterclass draws from scholarship on international law, political science and sociology, and speaks to the blind spots of meaning-making in multilateral settings. Even and particularly as the state is making a comeback in international politics, non-state actors continue to offer crucial and critical perspectives on African supranationalism.

[PhDs & postdocs: register for the masterclass here](#) [If you have questions or trouble signing up, please email \[decolonialfutures@uva.nl\]\(mailto:decolonialfutures@uva.nl\)](#)

CINEMA UNDER SIEGE #1

Seen Unseen: An Anthology of (Auto)Censorship

In a new collaboration, *Decolonial Futures* and *Het Documentaire Paviljoen (IDFA)* explore the multifaceted relationship between cinema and (de)coloniality. 7 May 2025, 19:30 -21:10, *Het Documentaire Paviljoen: De Spiegel* | Vondelpark 3, 1071 AA, Amsterdam

Under the title **Cinema Under Siege**, this first series explores the risks filmmakers face under political regimes that monitor, censor, and suppress dissent—often at great personal cost, from legal persecution to exile. How do filmmakers navigate these threats while continuing to tell urgent stories?

The series opens with *Seen Unseen: An Anthology of (Auto)Censorship*, a bold reflection on artistic repression and the fight to keep telling urgent stories. Revisiting the 2013 Gezi Park protests in Turkey, the collection of six short films weaves together public and personal archives into a powerful portrait of resistance.

At a time when the country is witnessing its largest wave of anti-authoritarian protest since Gezi—and the government is responding with escalating violence, surveillance, and suppression—*Seen Unseen* boldly highlights the essential role of filmmakers and artistic freedom in increasingly repressive political climates. After the screening, join artistic director Firat Yücel and contributing filmmaker belit sağ for a conversation moderated by Nadica Denić.

[Sign up for the screening here](#) Access is free with a [Cineville subscription](#), and €6.50 for students

Speakers

Firat Yücel is one of the co-founders of *Altyazı Monthly Cinema Magazine*. Currently, he's working as the editor of *Altyazı Fasikül: Free Cinema*, focusing on freedom of expression in filmmaking. In addition to being a critic, he continues his documentary practice as a film editor and director. He's a fellow at BAK (basis voor actuele kunst, Utrecht) 'Fellowship for Situated Practice 2023/2024'.

belit sağ (she/they) is a visual artist, educator, and researcher. She studied mathematics, audiovisual arts, and comparative literature. Their research-based artistic moving image practice is rooted in video-activist groups in Turkey. She was an artist in residence at the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten (Amsterdam) and the International Studio and Curatorial Program (NYC).

Nadica Denić is a film scholar and curator focused on the entanglement of film and contemporary political developments in Europe and beyond. She works as a Lecturer in Media and Culture at the University of Amsterdam (UvA), where she has also completed her PhD in 2024 on the ethics of contemporary first-person films about migration.

A CUTTING ROOM FLOOR: PRACTICES & METHODS OF DISCLOSING MILITANT CINEMA

Framer Framed co-hosts the conversation and screening 'A Cutting Room Floor: Practices & Methods of Disclosing Militant Cinema', which aims to discuss strategic practices of anti-colonial audiovisual collections. Fragments and documents associated with two projects from Cineclub Vrijheidsfilms will be screened: the film 'Guadeloupe Answers Back' (1967) and the residual collection of 'Unknown Suriname' (1973-1979) | 8 May 2025, 19:00 -21:30

Films associated with anti-colonial movements in the latter half of the 20th century were rooted in anti-institutional and radical activisms. These films had to navigate censorship laws, national border policies, forced displacement, political persecution, and financial constraints. Drawing on the experiences of curator-researchers [Annabelle Aventura](#) and [Luna Hupperetz](#), the discussion focuses on the research related to the militant cinema collective [Cineclub Vrijheidsfilms](#), asking questions such as: how do these particularities influence the nature of the materials? What methods can be defined for researching and curating fragmented, unsynchronised, incomplete audiovisual records? How to research collections that are inherently dispersed?

While the material collections are stored, at least in part, at film or audiovisual archival institutions, activating these histories requires community engagement. For independent researchers and curators, this often means establishing self-initiated networks and recalling marginalised and possibly traumatic memories connected to individuals and political movements. Archivist and founding director of the Archives & Digital Media Lab [Jamila Ghaddar](#) begins this workshop by sharing her experiences in developing archival ethical praxis. The talk will be moderated by [Asli Özgen](#).

This workshop is part of the Amsterdam School for Heritage and Memory Studies (AHM) and Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (ASCA) research initiative on Critical Audiovisual Heritage, co-hosted by Framer Framed and supported by UvA and NWO.

Location: Framer Framed, Oranje-Vrijstaatkaade 71, Amsterdam. [More information and registration](#)

THE LUDIFICATION OF VISION

Symposium organized by Mathieu Li-Goyette, Toni Pape, with the support of the Amsterdam School of Cultural Analysis and the Netherlands Institute for Cultural Analysis May 9, 2025, 12:00 – 16:30 | BG1 (Turfdraggsterpad 9), room 0.16

This one-day symposium explores the ways in which early comics artists pioneered new visual techniques to

engage, educate, and challenge audiences. In the late 19th and early 20th century, artists like Frank Beard, J. H. Howard, and Winsor McCay approached the page as a complex interface that could educate and entertain audiences at the same time. Indeed, an important goal of this period was to train the audience's media literacy through playful means, often combining the written word with visual realism and an oral commentary in the case of live performances.

12:00 - Benoît Crucifix (KU Leuven)

Childish Vision? Playful Interactions between Comics and Children's Drawing

This talk will inquire into the interactions between cartooning and children's drawing in the framework of a "ludification of vision" in the late 19th and early 20th century. Going from Töpffer's thoughts on the proximities between children's doodles and cartooning to playful interactions with readers in children's magazines, it will connect this play with simple lines to intermedial exchanges affecting the relationship between reading, looking at, viewing, and drawing.

Chair: Dr. Erin LaCour (VU Amsterdam)

13:15 – Kin Wai Chu (U Gent)

Ludic Ways of Seeing: Cultural hybridisation of vision in early Chinese cartoon periodicals

Emerging at the turn of the 20th century, early Chinese cartoon magazines blended traditional Chinese drawing styles and pictorial storytelling with the transnational practices of western cartoons, comics journalism and printing technology. This talk examines two key periodicals, *Dianshizhai Pictorial* (1884–1898) and *Shi Shi Hua Bao* (1905–1912), to trace the evolution of Chinese cartooning in shaping readers to engage with modernity, humour and new ways of visual storytelling.

Chair: Dr. Laura Vermeeren (UvA)

14:45 – Mathieu Li-Goyette

Chalk Talking: Between Sunday School and Stage Stunts

This workshop will present different examples taken from chalk talking instruction manuals from the 1880s up to the 1920s in order to conceptualize a typology of different public drawing practices as well as their relationship to early American comic strips.

INHABITING ERROR: FROM "LAST CHRISTMAS" TO "SENIOR'S LAST HOUR"

New Tendencies in Critical Theory presents Sianne Ngai, Inhabiting Error: From "Last Christmas" to "Senior's Last Hour" | May 9, 15-17h | PC. Hoofthuis 1.05 | Organized by Jeff Diamanti and Marija Cetinic.

This talk uses a pop song by Wham! and a reading of Marx's Capital to explore the stakes of recreating and lingering in wrong ways of thinking. To linger in error is to run the risk of affectively deepening error, expanding the reach of its domain. This is especially the

case in a world where truths are hidden by the social forms in which they are expressed, making error an unavoidable part of everyday perception. Yet when contradiction is a part of the world (as Hegel saw it) and not a tendency in reason (as Kant saw it), error must be phenomenologically inhabited in order to be fully understood.

Sianne Ngai is an Andrew W. Mellon Professor of English at the University of Chicago. Ngai's first book, *Ugly Feelings* (2005, Harvard University Press), is considered a key work of affect theory for its focus on politically ambiguous, non-cathartic negative emotions—envy and irritation as opposed to anger and fear. Her second book, *Our Aesthetic Categories: Zany, Cute, Interesting* (2012, Harvard University Press), which won the Modern Language Association's James Russell Lowell Prize, argues for the contemporary centrality of three everyday aesthetic categories, which are approached with the same philosophical seriousness given to the beautiful and sublime. Ngai's most recent book, *Theory of the Gimmick: Aesthetic Judgment and Capitalist Form* (2020, The Belknap Press of Harvard UP), explores the "gimmick" as a speech act and form encoding a series of interconnected contradictions concerning labor, time, and value. Ngai's work is most broadly concerned with the analysis of aesthetic forms and judgments specific to capitalism. She is currently working on *Ugly Thinking*, a book about the affective dimensions of dialectical thought and the ways in which Marx, Hegel, and a number of writers and artists inhabit error.

New Tendencies in Critical Theory is a series hosted by program coordinators in Comparative Literature, Comparative Cultural Analysis, and RMA Cultural Analysis at the University of Amsterdam. Supported by ASCA and NICA.

For questions, please contact Jeff Diamanti (J.diamanti@uva.nl) or Marija Cetinic (m.cetinic@uva.nl).

SPRING INTO HISTORY

We're excited to invite you to [Spring into History](#), a new event where ASH PhDs and Postdocs—and from other research schools—bring their research to life in creative ways — from storytelling and reenactments to spoken word and beyond.

Join us on **9 May from 19:30** for a relaxed evening with drinks, snacks, and fresh perspectives on historical research. It's a great chance to meet fellow researchers and see history from a different angle. All are welcome! We still have some spots left for those who'd like to present. Email **Elsa Lucassen** at e.a.lucassen@uva.nl.

For more information, take a look at [the event-page](#).

100 YEARS MALCOLM X: HIS LEGACY FOR BLACK (AND) MUSLIM COMMUNITIES

On the centenary of Malcolm X's birth, this two-part event in Amsterdam brings together scholars, archivists, and community members to reflect on his powerful and enduring legacy. Malcolm X was not only a civil rights leader, but a global thinker whose radical critiques of racism, imperialism, and systemic injustice continue to resonate deeply in today's struggles—from Black liberation and Islamophobia to the fight for Palestinian rights.

The programme begins with a screening of *Malcolm X* (dir. Spike Lee, 1992) on **Sunday 11 May, 14:30 at Cinema De Vlucht [link](#) »**, followed by an after-talk with Dr. Nawal Mustafa. The second part, a panel event on **Thursday 15 May, 19:30 at The Black Archives [link](#) »**, features mini-lectures and discussion with Dr. Kehinde Andrews, Ouiam Kaddam, and Dr. Mustafa, exploring Malcolm X's religious and political evolution, his global reach, and the vital role of women in shaping his life.

This event is open to ReMa students, PhD candidates, and academic staff. Students can earn 1 ECT through preparatory readings and a creative or critical reflection. Students who want to attend the events and earn 1 ECT can register by 7 May via n.mustafa@uva.nl.

THE OTHER AI: AUTOMATED INTIMACIES

One-day symposium at the V2 Lab for the Unstable Media in Rotterdam, the Netherlands on Tuesday, May 13, 2025. The event combines queer and trans theory with psychoanalytic perspectives in relation to the automation of intimate relations and the exteriorisation of desire. Can automation—and its failures—bring something new, or invite new interpretations of old habits and fixations? Is repetition not an opening? We bring together scholars and artists in a series of talks and workshops to open up a non-normative space for thinking about the technological mediations of intimacy, especially those forms that seem to replace, replicate or extend subjectivity through AI, VR, robotics, apps or other technified forms of the libidinal drive. The event will take place in person from 13:00 to 22:00, with the 19:00-22:00 time slot streamed online via V2. For tickets to attend 'The Other AI' in person or online go to: <https://v2.nl/>.

TO FORGIVE THE OCEAN: RE-IMAGINING THE CARIBBEAN THROUGH RELATION AND POETRY.

Seminar 3 in the series: Climate Imaginaries: Artistic Research for Regenerative Futures with Land and Water | Date/time: May 14th, 5-7pm Guest speaker: Imani Heijmans

| *ASCA Respondent: Mikki Stelder | Location: AHK Culture Club, Marineterrein*

Imani (they/them) is a queer Surinamese artist focusing on performance and poetry. Caribbean thought and Decolonial dreams underpin their work. Their primary inspiration and research focus is oceanic thinking, in which they treat the ocean both as a more-than-human mother and as a symbolic tool to express and explore ancestral trauma.

In this seminar, they will explore how ocean-based theories, such as Kamau Brathwaite's concept of Tidalectics and Édouard Glissant's notion of Relation, present ways to understand world-building through a historically Caribbean lens. As complex, varied, and alive rather than linear and absolute. They will discuss how this oceanic tendency carries over into poetry and art from the archipelago, serving as expressions of identity that resist simplification and colonial narratives.

AI AND THE (RE)SHAPING OF INTELLIGENCE

Invited lecture by Wendy Chun, Stephanie Dick & Matt Canute in the online Critical AI seminar series, 14 May 2025, 17:30 -19:00, Online

[Wendy Hui Kyong Chun](#) is Simon Fraser University's Canada 150 Research Chair in New Media, Professor in the School of Communication, and Director of the Digital Democracies Institute. At the Institute, she leads the Mellon-funded Data Fluencies Project, which combines the interpretative traditions of the arts and humanities with critical work in the data sciences to express, imagine, and create innovative engagements with (and resistances to) our data-filled world.

[Stephanie Dick](#) is an Assistant Professor in the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University. Her research and teaching are informed by her background in STS and History of Science, with a focus on computing, mathematics, and artificial intelligence since the Second World War.

Matt Canute is a postgraduate researcher in the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University, Canada. Register [here](#)

Contact

In case you have questions regarding the seminar series, feel free to reach out to Anna Schjøtt Hansen (a.s.hansen@uva.nl) or Dieuwertje Luitse (d.luitse@uva.nl).

PSYCHOANALYSIS AND... ARCHITECTURE!

A Workshop and Talk with Jane Rendell

The Psychoanalysis and... Series | Organizers: Ben Moore and Alvaro Lopez, 15 May 2025

Psychoanalysis and... continues its series of events connecting psychoanalysis, culture, and society, with a critical workshop and lecture on the crossroads

between identity, architecture, and urban spaces. Professor Jane Rendell will join us for a double event—a workshop and a talk—to discuss spatial practice, interdisciplinarity, and the complexities inherent to the social, material, and subjective spaces we inhabit in the current world.

Jane Rendell is professor of Critical Spatial Practice at the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, where she co-initiated and teaches on the new MA Situated Practice, as well as the MA Architectural History. At UCL, Rendell has been Director of Architectural Research (2004-11), Vice Dean of Research (2010-13), and Director of Architectural History and Theory (2015-8). Currently, as Director of the Bartlett's Ethics Commission, Rendell curates an online open access education tool-kit called practisingethics.org, which supports ethical practice in architectural and urban research. Rendell is also on the Editorial Board for *GeoHumanities*, *Architectural Theory Review*, *ARQ* (Architectural Research Quarterly), *The Happy Hypocrite*, and *the Journal of Visual Culture in Britain*. She was a member of the AHRC Peer Review College (2004–2008) and inaugural chair of the RIBA President's Awards for Research (2005–2007). In 2006, Rendell was a research fellow at CRASSH (Centre for Research in Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities) at the University of Cambridge and received an honorary degree from the University College of the Creative Arts.

SLOW AI: PRACTICES OF THINKING, SENSING, AND REFUSING

Join us on 15 May from 11:00-18:30 at Framer Framed for Slow AI: Practices of Thinking, Sensing, and Refusing—a day-long symposium reimagining artificial intelligence through artistic practice and the lenses of ethics, relationality, and refusal.

Over the past year, the Slow AI research project has unfolded across a working group and the Material Playgrounds, collaborative sessions exploring divination, somatics, sound, storytelling, and more. This gathering marks a moment to reflect on the first year of the project: to think together about AI not as an inevitable force or a tool to be optimised, but as a cultural and relational object that entangles with our ecological, political and cultural environments.

Structured around three thematic blocks, the symposium pairs brief presentations with extended collective conversations—bringing together artists, theorists, designers, and technologists working across disciplines and tempos.

The program features contributions by Elki Boerdam, Sofía Fernández Blanco, Dorin Buduşan and Mariana Lanari, with dialogues including Carlo De Gaetano, Janine Armin, Zachary Formwalt, Flavia Dzodan, Pablo Nuñez Palma and Christian Olesen. The event will be

moderated by Sabine Niederer, Mariana Fernández Mora and Patricia de Vries.

The day will close with the launch of *Restless Grounds: Speculative Futures on Algorithmic Technologies*, a publication and podcast exploring slowness as a speculative, critical, and embodied mode of engaging with algorithmic technologies.

Launched in Jan 2024 with support from the Centre of Expertise Creative Innovation (CoECI) Partnercall voor Experimenten, Slow AI began as a collaboration between the Visual Methodologies Collective (AUAS) and the Algorithmic Cultures Research Group (Sandberg Institute), with additional support from the ARIAS Artificial Worlds group.

This event is free and open to the public, but space is limited—[please RSVP by clicking here](#).

STORIES THAT WRONG AND STORIES THAT REPAIR

Second of two lectures by the current Spinoza Chair holder, Jennifer Lackey, the Wayne and Elizabeth Jones Professor of Philosophy at Northwestern University. 15 May 2025, 18:00 -21:30, [Aula - Oude Lutherse kerk](#)

Stories are as important as they are ubiquitous, depicting everything from the origin of the universe to the driving force behind an isolated act by a single individual. But stories do not just depict what has actually occurred—they can also exert tremendous power over what does or even can occur. How the unfolding of events is presented in a narrative, for instance, or the layers of a person's character are sketched, can have monumental consequences for the people involved in them. Taking the role that narratives play in the United States criminal legal system as a paradigmatic case, it is shown that stories that falsely demonize or vilify a person can result in distinctively epistemic wrongs and that “counterstories” can function as a crucial form of epistemically reparative work. It is then argued that wronging another person in a way demanding of epistemic reparations does not necessarily involve having false or even unwarranted beliefs about him. This is supported through the introduction of the concept of “misknowing,” which applies when only a narrow, one-dimensional set of facts are known about a person, often centering on those that are most injurious. Misknowing is often fueled by “flat stories” about the person in question, which depict him in static, one-dimensional, and psychologically simplistic terms. When such stories are grounded in injustice, epistemic reparations can require “rounder stories,” which portray a person in dynamic, multidimensional, and psychologically complex terms. In this way, while stories can epistemically wrong a person in life-altering ways, they can also be the source of the life-restoring epistemic reparations that are demanded in response.

[Register for one or both lectures](#)

Jennifer Lackey is the Wayne and Elizabeth Jones Professor of Philosophy and Professor of Law (courtesy) at Northwestern University, Founding Director of the Northwestern Prison Education Program, and Senior Research Associate at the African Centre for Epistemology and Philosophy of Science at the University of Johannesburg.

Lackey's research is primarily in social epistemology. She is the author of over 60 articles and three books, including her recent *Criminal Testimonial Injustice*, which won the 2024 North American Society for Social Philosophy Book Award. She is also the editor of five volumes and editor-in-chief of two journals, *Philosophical Studies* and *Episteme*.

RE-THINKING MEDIA CONGLOMERATES

Lecture and NICA-Masterclass with Kit Hughes organized by the ASCA Cross-Media Research seminar | 16/05/2025, 14:30-18:00 | Belle van Zuylenzaal, [University Library](#)

The increasing relevance of social media platforms as oligopolistic infrastructures of industry and politics has a deeper genealogy that informs the way capitalism, democracy and their interrelation are conceptualized today. In this lecture/masterclass with Kit Hughes we look back at how television was harnessed by the industry to create partnerships, to distribute information and to demonstrate power and access. Next to broadcast TV this also involves the installment of alternative, closed circuit and logistical television assemblages with the aim of redefining and repurposing concepts like identity and justice, liability and obligation, capitalism and democracy.

14:30-16:00

Lecture: Another Conservative Media Conglomerate? The US Chamber of Commerce Sells Influence and Access in American Politics (1975-1997)

In this presentation, I will detail Chamber President Dick Leshner's (1975-1997) attempts to transform the U.S Chamber of Commerce into "a media conglomerate" (his words). To detail the history of the U.S Chamber of Commerce is to provide an overview of the major contours of American business and economic history during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. As scholars have noted, the Chamber played a key role in struggles over the shape of the U.S. regulatory apparatus, government responsiveness to citizen demands, employer-labor relations, and a range of specific policy issues on topics like taxes, energy, deficit spending, and free trade. However, missing in these accounts is an understanding of the Chamber as a sophisticated media apparatus.

This lecture will focus on the Chamber's development of BizNet, television operations that included producing news and public affairs series for broadcast

and cable outlets (including ESPN), international videoconferences with U.S. trade partners, live-by-satellite town halls with politicians, interactive meetings, educational seminars, and "grassroots" lobbying events. Certainly, the cross-institutional televisual circuits that the Chamber built—linking partners, distributing information, demonstrating power and access—intervened directly in narrow policy issues. However, in integrating popular and institutional audiences, the Chamber also hoped to achieve its vision for transforming the world by redefining and repurposing concepts like identity and justice, liability and obligation, capitalism and democracy—all longstanding concerns of television studies. In tracing these complex circuits of televisual practice, I argue that we must duplicate institutions' agnostic and simultaneous embrace of the medium's myriad forms—logistical and textual, broadcast and closed-circuit, commercial and non-profit, delightful and boring—to understand television's historical and present capacity to constitute everyday life.

16:15-18:00

Masterclass

Guided by a close reading of two texts, the masterclass will aim at a conceptual understanding of the productive relation between media technologies and industrial politics.

Readings:

Jodi Dean: *Democracy and Other Neoliberal Fantasies* (Chapter 1 "Technology: The Promises of Communicative Capitalism")

Kit Hughes: "The True Meaning of Christmas (at Hallmark): The Miracle of the Small Business Owner"

Kit Hughes is Associate Professor of Film and Media Studies at Colorado State University. She specializes in useful and workplace media, economic education, and histories of technology. Her book, [Television at Work](#) (Oxford University Press, 2020) explores how American business developed workplace television as a medium of industrial efficiency, ideological orientation, and corporate expansion. More recently, her research on [NYSE educational film](#), public television consumer programming, and the tech industry's promotion of datafied managerialism and employee wearables in the context of [professional basketball](#) asks where our ideas about the economy come from, how they circulate, and how they impact our world.

PLAYFUL RESISTANCE: SENSOR-COUNTER PRACTICES IN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS

ASCA Cities 'Playable Cities' seminar - "Playful Resistance: Sensor-Counter Practices in Urban Environments", lecture by Christoph Borbach and Max Kanderske (University of Siegen). Organized by Carolyn Birdsall, Linda Kopitz and Alex Gekker | Friday 16 May, 2025, 3pm-5pm | Location:

room 0.16 (E-lab), Turfdraggsterpad 9, Amsterdam (BG1). Register: L.Kopitz@uva.nl

Christoph Borbach is a postdoctoral researcher at the collaborative research center “Media of Cooperation” at the University of Siegen. Before that, he researched and taught at Humboldt University of Berlin, the University of Vienna and the Burg Giebichenstein University of Art and Design, among others. His research interests include the history of media and technology, epistemology and praxeology. His book *Delay – Mediengeschichten der Verzögerung, 1850-1950* was published in 2024.

Max Kanderske is a researcher with the project “Navigation in Online-/Offline-Spaces at the collaborative research center “Media of Cooperation” at the University of Siegen. His work focuses on the media and practices of navigation, game studies and sensor media and counter-practices. He is one of the editors of *Navigationen – Zeitschrift für Medien- und Kulturwissenschaft* and member of the editorial board of online Games Studies journal *Spiel|Formen*.

Preparatory reading

- Salter, Chris (2022): *Sensing machines: How Sensors Shape our Everyday Life*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, pp. 15–40. (Chapter: “Measuring Sensation”)

- Scholz, Sebastian (2021): Sensing the ‘Contemporary Condition’: The Chronopolitics of Sensor-media. In: *Krisis* 41 (1), pp. 135–156.

The texts can be accessed here: <https://surfdrive.surf.nl/files/index.php/s/4StOWR7BxWadGWI>.

LAUNCHING THE TRANSLATION OF JEAN-CLAUDE FIGNOLÉ’S *QUIET DAWN*, A NOVEL ABOUT THE HAITIAN REVOLUTION

In Conversation with Kaiama L. Glover and Laurent Dubois

20 May, 2025, 12.45-14.15 Wereldmuseum, Leiden

Steenstraat 1B, 2312 BS Leiden, contact: i.w.a.hallallen@uu.nl | Registration:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdie8pKWny5ZROVEIB->

[aAGtPK6ArO_YP7wv5BN9siB0BUZjFw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdie8pKWny5ZROVEIB-aAGtPK6ArO_YP7wv5BN9siB0BUZjFw/viewform)

Kaiama L. Glover (Professor of Black Studies and French, Yale University) and Laurent Dubois (John L. Nau III Bicentennial Professor in the History & Principles of Democracy, University of Virginia), leading scholars of Africana Studies, join us to launch their English translation of the late Jean-Claude Fignolé’s 1990 novel.

They will be joined in conversation by archeologist [Sony Jean](#), an archeologist of the magnificent Citadelle, a castle built by King Christophe in Cap Haitian in the early 1800s, [Francio Guadeloupe](#), Special Professor of Public Anthropology of Kingdom Relations at the

University of Amsterdam, and [Anastasia Arsenis](#), Graduate Student in History at the University of Utrecht. The event is moderated by [Alessandra Benedicty-Kokken](#), Universitair Docent at Literary and Cultural Analysis.

Jean-Claude Fignolé’s Spiralist novel evokes complex temporalities of ancestral knowledge, moving between the late twentieth century and turn of the eighteenth century. Duke University Press writes that “the swirling, multilayered novel provides intimate portraits of an eighteenth-century slaveholder, his wife, and their enslaved laborers set against the devastating backdrop of enslavement and revolution... interwoven with that of a present-day French nun. One of the few contemporary Haitian novels to explicitly grapple with Haiti’s revolution, *Quiet Dawn* foregrounds issues of race, power, the continuing legacy of historical trauma, and the unresolved tensions between the past and present.” The introduction may be read [here](#).

THE COMMAND OF RESPONSIBILITY IN A BURNING WORLD

Philosophy and Public Affairs Organized by Yolande Jansen (y.jansen@uva.nl) and Jasmijn Leeuwenkamp. With Danielle Celermeijer (University of Sydney); respondent Eva Meijer | 21 May 2025, 16:00 - 17:30, Faculteitskamer, Oude Turfmarkt 141-143 Amsterdam.

This article tracks a double contestation of responsibility; first over the conceptualisation of responsibility itself, and second over scholars’ responsibilities with respect to imagining and conceptualising responsibility. An actual encounter with the world we are facing, characterised by catastrophic climate change, devastation of biodiversity, and ecological unravelling commands theorists to form and convey conceptions of responsibility adequate to the complex dynamics underpinning the unravelling of worlds, and the vast stakes of harm. This means imagining, articulating, and advocating forms of responsibility capable of buttressing a capacious duty of care, not just to humans in the future, but to the more-than human-world. Clinging to hegemonic, individualized and anthropocentric conceptions of responsibility represents a multiple failure: to recognize that the conditions under which theorizing is occurring have radically changed; to theorise in favour of the vast majority of Earth beings; and to ethically exercise the privilege the community of scholars enjoys with respect to epistemic access to alternative conceptual possibilities.

THE POLITICS OF NOT EATING ANIMALS

Conference 2025, 22 & 23 May, 2025, University of Amsterdam. Organizer: Eva Meijer.

21 May Pre-Conference Event: PPA Colloquium

Danielle Celermajer presents the paper 'The Command to Responsibility in a Burning World'. See above. If you want to attend, please register to receive the paper via y.jansen@uva.nl

Online Opening (open to all) 19.00-21:30 pm CET

<https://uva-live.zoom.us/j/81008595385>

19:00 - 20:00 Sunaura Taylor: TBA

20:00 - 21:00 Claire Jean Kim: Fighting for Animals in an Anti-Black World

21:00 - 21:30 Discussion

22 May - Day 1**University Library - Doelenzaal**

08:45 - 09:15 Registration with Coffee and Tea

09:00 - 09:15 Welcome

09:15 - 10:15 Keynote 1 Danielle Celermajer: To Encounter, to Know, to Love and to Be Just

10:15 - 12:15 Session 1: Multispecies Justice and Eating Animals

12:15-13:15 Lunch

University Library - Belle van Zuylenzaal

13:15 - 14:15 Keynote 2 Stacy Banwell: An Intersectional Analysis of the Impact of Anthropogenic Climate Change: Should we Introduce the Crime of Animal Ecocide?

14:15 - 15:45 Session 2: Animals in/and Industrial Farming I

15:45-16:00 Coffee/Tea Break

16:00-17:00 Session 2 continues: Animals in/and Industrial Farming II

17:00-18:00 Panel on Researching and Advocating for/with Farmed Animals: with Danielle Celermajer, Leonie Cornips, Jin Qian, Tim Reysoo

23 May - Day 2**University Library - Belle van Zuylenzaal**

08:45 - 9:00 Coffee and Tea

09:00 - 11:00 Session 3: Meat

11:00 - 12:00 Keynote Anat Pick: On Eating Animals in Andrea Arnold's *Cow* (2021)

12:00-13:00 Lunch with Drawing Workshop by G.C. Heemskerk

13:00-15:00 Session 4: Eating Animals in Literature, Art and Philosophy

15:00-15:10 Coffee/Tea Break

15:10- 15:25 Musical intermezzo by Haru Lev

15:30-16:30 Film Program:

16:30-18:00 Encountering Earth Beings as the Starting Point for Change. Speed Presentations by Alli Abad, Irina Frasin, Matthias Kramm and Anna Lina Litz, Followed by Discussion

Nota bene

If you are ill, please do a covid-test. If you do not have covid but sneeze or cough, you are welcome, but please wear a proper mouth mask (FFP2 or FFP3).

BASANDJA

Filmic experiences from the frontlines of the rainforest, mining communities, and conflict zones in the DRC.

May 22nd. 3-7pm | UB – Potgieter / Open to all

Through talks and films (some of which were selected at the Berlinale FF), Basandja Coalition will share their organizing and movement building experiences from the frontlines of the rainforest, mining communities, and conflict zones in the DR Congo. The delegation is made up of four members of the Basandja Coalition: Petna Ndaliko Katondolo, Filmmaker, Activist and Educator; Samuel Yagase Bayombe, Indigenous Leader and Climate Justice Advocate, and Stella Ramazani, film producer and logistics coordinator. The delegation will screen films concerning the Congo Basin Rainforest (exploring the role of Indigenous knowledge and wisdom in combating the climate crisis) and the challenges of mining communities (tying the accelerated quest for critical minerals that power the green and/or clean energy transition to cobalt diggers) and the conflict in the east of the Congo (delving into the clash between local organizations and the state and UN peacekeepers).

Schedule:

3pm: Welcome by Matthias C.J. De Groof, introducing Petna Ndaliko Katondolo, Samuel Yagase Bayombe, and Stella Ramazani

3:15: Introduction by Petna Ndaliko Katondolo & Stella Ramazani

3:30: Screening *A Tree Prayer*

4:10: discussion

4:30: break

4:45: Introduction by Samuel Yagase Bayombe & Leance Tubangilie

5:00: Screening film 2 [TBA]

5:40: discussion & roundtable

Contact info for registration for the event: Matthias De Groof: m.c.j.degroof@uva.nl

Please registration before May 11

Conditions for obtaining the ECTS (1): attendance, readings (a link to the readings will be sent upon registration) and prepare two questions (send to and m.c.j.degroof@uva.nl and H.H.Kuipers@uva.nl).

UN/SAVORY SUB/STANCES

A colloquium on the erotics of bodily waste | May 23rd at 13:00-17:00, Room: TBA | Contact Diego Semerene to register before May 20: d.semerene@uva.nl

Writer Ludmila Oulitskaïa says that a forbidden book is granted supplementary reason to be read, taboo being a sort of quality label of an artifact. Could the same be

said about substances that come out of the body? Not just the usual suspects, such as semen, but ones that a society agrees to deem repulsive: urine, blood, vomit, snot, excrement. The Un/savory Sub/stances colloquium proposes to look at the erotic potential of such bodily waste through the work of PhD and rMA students, as well as ecodiviant artist Arthur Guilleminot's piss soap project.

Speakers: Nor Akelei, Xinyi Li, André Soliva, Maz Jardon, Samuel Ludmila Feline Constantin, Arthur Guilleminot

RESEARCH, VALUES, AND INTERVENTION

Navigating AI and Technomoral Futures

An Empirical Ethics Workshop with Shannon Vallor and Sabina Leonelli | This workshop explores how values shape research practices and vice versa, focusing on the ethico-political implications of AI, large datasets, and infrastructures. Through discussions with Shannon Vallor and Sabina Leonelli, participants will critically interrogate and envision various potential futures of more or less ethical research practices. Organized by Selin Gerlek and Paula Helm | 22 May 2025, 10-15:00, Oude Turfmarkt 145-147, Sweelinck Room, Institute for Advanced Study (IAS). Registration: [Link](#)

This workshop will explore how values influence and are influenced by research practices, with a focus on the roles of AI systems, large datasets, and knowledge infrastructures. Together with the Empirical Ethics Team at IAS, which is simultaneously practising and further developing ideas of Empirical Ethics, Shannon Vallor and Sabina Leonelli will inspire and guide discussions on the complex ethical implications and value tensions that arise vis-à-vis these emerging socio-technical arrangements. Participants are invited to critically examine how AI tools and research infrastructures shape ethics and vice versa, as well as to discuss practice-based insights into how these issues can be addressed through practical transformative interventions.

Understanding the ethical implications of AI and research infrastructures matters, as it determines how we produce, shape and enact knowledge, address systemic inequalities, and design research environments.

By engaging with these themes, this workshop can intervene in research practices to promote justice, equity, and integrity, ensuring that technological advancements align with human and societal values.

Shannon Vallor serves as Director of the Centre for Technomoral Futures in the Edinburgh Futures Institute, and is Programme Director for EFI's MSc in Data and AI Ethics. She holds the Baillie Gifford Chair in the Ethics of Data and Artificial Intelligence in the University of Edinburgh's Department of Philosophy.

Professor Vallor joined the Futures Institute in 2020 following a career in the United States as a leader in the ethics of emerging technologies, including a post as a visiting AI Ethicist at Google from 2018-2020. She is the author of *The AI Mirror: How to Reclaim Our Humanity in an Age of Machine Thinking* (Oxford University Press, 2024) and *Technology and the Virtues: A Philosophical Guide to a Future Worth Wanting* (Oxford University Press, 2016). She serves as advisor to government and industry bodies on responsible AI and data ethics. She is also Principal Investigator and Co-Director (with Professor Ewa Luger) of the UKRI research programme BRAID (Bridging Responsible AI Divides), funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

Sabina Leonelli is a philosopher of science and technology, currently holding the Chair of Philosophy and the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at the Technical University of Munich. She leads the Ethical Data Initiative and co-directs the TUM Public Science Lab. Until 2024, she served as Professor of Philosophy and History of Science and Director of the Centre for the Study of the Life Sciences (Egenis) at the University of Exeter, where she also led the research on "Data Governance, Openness, and Ethics" at the Institute for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (IDSAI). In addition to her leadership roles, Prof. Leonelli is an elected president of the International Society for History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology and a member of various scientific committees and editorial boards, including the Division of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science and Technology of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology.

About the organisers

Selin Gerlek is an assistant professor for philosophy of technology and politics at the University of Amsterdam. Her research focuses on digital citizenship, transformative processes in human-technology relations, mediated cultural practices, empirical (AI) ethics & value change, as well as embodied and hermeneutic relations. The traditional lines of thought she follows include (Post-)Phenomenology, Philosophy of Technology, Science and Technology Studies (STS), Pragmatism, Practice Theory, Political Philosophy, Feminist Philosophy, and Gender Theories. At the University of Amsterdam, she is co-PI in the new Research Priority Area "Shaping Interfaces Between Science and the Public", scientific co-lead of the Research line "Empirical Ethics" at the Institute for Advanced Study (IAS), part of the research group "Digital Citizenship", member of the "Platform for the Ethics and Politics of Technology" (PEPT), and teaches in the Capacity Group Philosophical Tradition in Context at the department of philosophy.

Paula Helm is an Assistant Professor specializing in Critical AI Studies and Empirical Ethics, with a background in Anthropology and Peace and Conflict Research. Her interdisciplinary work spans STS, Media Studies, and Technology Ethics. She co-leads the Empirical Ethics Research Group at the Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Studies and co-coordinates a Media Studies MA program on Cultural Data & AI, integrating Cultural Studies, AI Ethics, STS, and programming. Helm also leads a research project on Digital Transformation in the Amazon, merging indigenous and Western knowledge, featured in *De Groene Amsterdammer* and *The Guardian*. She serves on the UvA Ethics Committee, is co-PI of the HAVA Lab, an IAS Fellow and a member of the Certain-AI Network.

INTERNATIONAL JAPANESE STUDIES WORKSHOP

Friday 23 May, 14:30-17:00, Media Studies, Turfdraagsterpad 9, Amsterdam, room 0.16 | Registration: c.j.birdsall@uva.nl

The Amsterdam Institute for Humanities Research (AIHR) recently became a member of the research network 'Consortium for Global Japanese Studies'. In marking this occasion, this workshop will open with a general welcome and introduction to the research network, with information for UvA humanities researchers about potential opportunities for funded fellowships to the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (IRCJS) in Kyoto. There will then be two panel sessions with short presentations about current media/cultural research related to Japan, which will be delivered by several UvA researchers (Dr. Rik Spanjers, Dr. Oliver Seibt, Dr. Vincent Kuitenbrouwer), along with two researchers based in Japan (Dr. Nanako Ota and Taufik Hidayah).

Programme

14:00: Tea/Coffee

14:30: Welcome / Introduction to the Consortium for Global Japanese Studies

15:00: Session 1 – presentations by Rik Spanjers (University of Amsterdam), Oliver Seibt (University of Amsterdam) and Nanako Ota (International Research Center for Japanese Studies)

16:00: Tea/Coffee

16:15: Session 2 – presentations by Taufik Hidayah (Hiroshima University) and Vincent Kuitenbrouwer (University of Amsterdam)

17:00: Reception

For further information or any questions, please contact the organisers: Carolyn Birdsall (c.j.birdsall@uva.nl) and Nanako Ota (nana@nichibun.ac.jp).

Organised with the kind support of International Research Center for Japanese Studies (IRCJS) and Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (ASCA).

“OVERFLOWN”: DRESS, TEXTILES, AND BODIES BEYOND BORDERS

Workshop organized by Jazmín Ruiz Díaz, Roberto Filippello, and Tamara Poblete | 23 May, 15:00–19:00 | Bushuis ([Kloveniersburgwal 48](#)), Room 1.14

In a global context marked by the rise of right-wing governments, the intensification of anti-immigration and anti-gender discourses, and the continued extractivist exploitation in the Global South, the contemporary condition of the world can be read as a hell demarcated by borders. Within this context, fashion, dress, and textile practices emerge not only as aesthetic expressions and cultural phenomena but also as sites of collective emancipatory imaginaries. They offer potential pathways beyond the structures of the nation-state, binary gender norms, and colonial ruination. This workshop addresses the concept of “overflow” (*desborde* in Spanish) as a lens through which to explore the complexity and unruliness of dress- and textile-related practices in the “chaos-world.” By deliberately disrupting orthographic convention, the Spanish term *desbordado* (overflowing) is split into *des-bordado*. The prefix *des-* signifies negation or reversal, while *bordado* derives from the verb *bordar*, meaning to embroider—to ornament fabric or material with thread. This linguistic play suggests the act of un-embroidering or dismantling an embroidery, inviting us to consider the present moment as an entangled textile: an intricate weave of threads, turns, and knots. The “overflow” thus serves not only as a metaphor but also as a methodological approach: it disavows containment and embraces unruliness as a mode of engaging with our historical conjuncture. By thinking with and through the overflow, in this workshop we bring together experimental scholarship and practices to examine how textile and dress are being used, across different geographical contexts, to negotiate the multiple crossings of gender, migration, and anti-colonial resistance.

The event is organized around three thematic sessions (details on the confirmed international panelists will be added soon):

1. Hair as Medium (15:00–16:20)

From the global circulation of hair as a commodity to the politicization of hairstyles in specific historical contexts, this session explores hair as more than adornment—an archive of touch, a trace of power, and a site of aesthetic-political insurgency.

2. Fashion and (Anti-)colonial Entanglements (16:30–17:40)

This session explores how garments and gestures can be embraced as tools of reparation within and against structures of dominance.

3. Dressing the Resistance (17:45–19:00)

This final session examines how embodied practices associated with fashion and dress have been mobilized within spaces of protest.

DISSOLVE INTO: CREATIVE METHODOLOGIES IN POST-TRAUMA

An ASCA interdisciplinary workshop that explores creative methodologies in post-trauma, with a particular focus on eco-psychoanalysis and screenwriting organized by Dr. Elan Gamaker (Kingston University London) and Dr. Catherine Lord (University of Amsterdam) | Roeterseiland REC A 1.04.

This one-off workshop takes the form of a seminar, followed by practical and creative application with participants, who are encouraged to engage actively with the critical approaches discussed here, and also as the subject of Dr. Gamaker's book chapter for an upcoming publication called *Critical Filmmaking* (Intellect Books). While Elan Gamaker will chair the workshop within the scope of screenwriting as a post-traumatic methodology, Catherine Lord will engage students with the theme of ecological mourning, drawing psychoanalysis into dialogue with Joanna Macy's 'active hope' work.

Dr. Elan Gamaker is a screenwriter and director whose work has been selected for several international programmes and markets, including Berlinale Co-Production Market, IFFR Cinemart and Produire au Sud (Nantes). He is an attendee of both the Writers' and Directors' Labs of Amsterdam-based Binger Filmlab, and has directed two features. An ASCA alumnus, he is currently Course Leader of BA Filmmaking at Kingston University, London, and Founding Director of the London-based screenwriting mentorship programme Dissolve Into.

<https://www.kingston.ac.uk/about/staff/dr-elan-gamaker>

Dr. Catherine Lord is a writer, scholar and lecturer in literary and media studies, tenured at the department of Literature and Cultural Analysis, as well as Media Studies, at the University of Amsterdam. She specialises in environmental humanities, literature and cinema; she studies the overlaps between psychoanalysis, feminism and ecological studies. Her recent publications have appeared in *Comparative American Studies*, *Green Letters* and two Palgrave collections of essays. Currently, she is working on a book project about environmental mourning. She is also an artist, and at present, is developing practice-based projects which explore the intersection between psychoanalytic and ecological themes.

<https://www.uva.nl/en/profile/1/o/c.m.lord/c.m.lord.html>

To attend the workshop, please email Dr. Catherine Lord at c.m.lord@uva.nl, and you will receive one 6000-word book chapter (provided by Dr. Gamaker) and one essay on environmental mourning (3000 words provided by Dr. Lord).

THE COLOUR FANTASTIC REVISITED

Across Global Histories, Theories, Aesthetics, and Archives

Eye International Conference 25-28 May 2025

The annual Eye International Conference is an opportunity for scholars, archivists, curators, filmmakers, students, artists, and film enthusiasts from across the world to gather together and explore contemporary professional and academic issues affecting audiovisual heritage today.

For the 10th edition of the Eye International Conference we revisit the topic of colour in film, in celebration of 10 years since *The Colour Fantastic: Chromatic Worlds of Silent Cinema* Conference which took place in Eye in 2015. In 2025, we broaden the focus to the study of film colour globally, both within and beyond the silent film era, exploring the current themes and emergent challenges in the field across academic and professional realms, throughout film history.

The Eye International Conference 2025 will take place in Amsterdam from Sunday, 25 to Wednesday 28 May 2025. Wednesday 28 May will consist of an Open House at the Eye Collection Centre, a programme of guided tours, presentations, demonstrations, and screenings (limited capacity).

PHILOSOPHY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Organized by Yolande Jansen (y.jansen@uva.nl) and Jasmijn Leeuwenkamp. Speaker: Ingrid Robeyns, Respondent Annemijn Kwikkers | 28 May 2025, 16:00, OTM Faculty room.

Ingrid Robeyns works on issues in contemporary political philosophy and applied ethics, and holds the Chair in Ethics of Institutions at the Ethics Institute of Utrecht University. She is specialised in applied and "non-ideal" ethics and political philosophy, and in interdisciplinary and synthetic research, as well as in the development of normative frameworks, theories, and methods that are needed to do this kind of research. She also has an appointment as a visiting professor at the Center for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) at the LSE, London.