

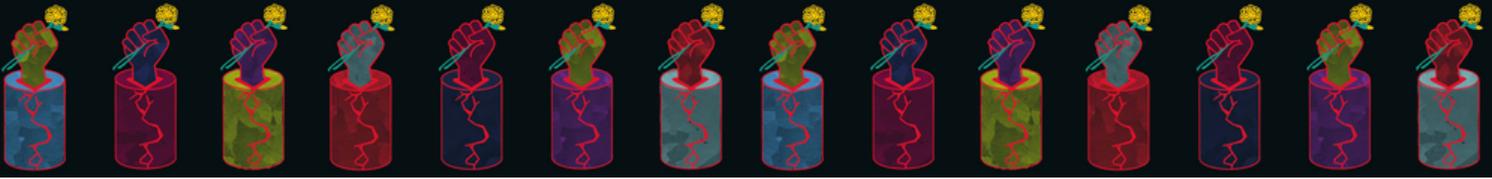


FRIDAY 3RD OF MAY 2024

BREAKING SILOS

BUILDING SOLIDARITIES IN GENDER RESEARCH





A message from the organisers:

As critical scholars and feminist researchers working on issues of gender and sexuality across the universities in London, we have often struggled to organize concerted, collective responses to the many interlocking crises we—and ever more disproportionately, the world—face: rising inequalities, ecological collapse, global desensitization to genocide, racism and xenophobia, forced displacement, right-wing nationalist upsurges, and “anti-gender” backlash. As scholars, we often produce knowledge that is disciplinarily and institutionally confined, which limits our connections to one another as well as our contributions to broader, sustainable social transformation.

The BREAKING SILOS Conference, celebrated as part of LSE Gender’s 30th Anniversary, proposes to create a space of solidarity and collaborative, localized, interdisciplinary knowledge-production that reaches beyond disciplinary and academic boundaries, and creates opportunities for collective learning and collaboration, as we address these mounting challenges. Thank you for joining us.

Wifi: If you have LSE or other participating institutional credentials you can access the internet via ‘eduroam’ with your institutional email and password. All other guests can access the internet via ‘the Cloud’.

Accessibility: There are clearly marked accessible toilets and elevators at each LSE location. For more accessibility information you can visit [Accessible LSE](#).

Map and locations: All LSE buildings can be found on Google Maps. You are also welcome to use the [LSE Campus Map](#). If you cannot find a specific room, please ask the front desk in the building for directions.

Read more about ‘Breaking Silos’



‘LSE Gender Studies: 30 years and beyond’ symposium registration



Schedule:

8.30 - 9.00am: Registration (Centre Building 1.05)

- with tea, coffee and biscuits

9.00 - 9.30am: Opening Remarks (Centre Building 1.03)

- Professor Sumi Madhok and Professor Bingchun Meng

9.30 - 11.00am: Session One (Centre Building 1.03 & 1.04)

- **Panel 1A: Decolonizing Solidarities, Imagining Communities (CBG.1.03)**
 - **Speakers:** Hannah El-Silimy (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa); Luana Paloma Sacristán (Independent Researcher); Kanwal Hameed (University of Exeter) and Esraa Al-Muftah (Qatar University)
 - **Moderator:** Ting-Sian Liu (LSE)
- **Panel 1B: Breaking the Silence: Survivor-Centered Approaches to Sexual Violence (CBG.1.04)**
 - **Speakers:** Francesca Baldwin (University of Reading); Julieta Baker (Brunel University); Kai Grygier (University of Sussex); Molly Ackhurst (University Greenwich)
 - **Moderator:** Aynura Akbaš (LSE)

11.00 - 11.15am: Break with tea, coffee and biscuits (Centre Building 1.05)

11.15am -12.45pm: Session Two (Centre Building 1.03 & 1.04)

- **Panel 2A: Digital Drives of Queer Desire: Fugitive Affects & Dangerous Complicities (CBG.1.03)**
 - **Speakers:** Nikhil Dharmanaj (Cambridge University); Ekabali Ghosh (SOAS); Abel Guerra and Lumichi Okamoto (LSE); Tanvi Kanchan (SOAS)
 - **Moderator:** Luma Mantilla Garino (LSE)
- **Panel 2B: Abolition, Borders & Carcerality (CBG.1.04)**
 - **Speakers:** Aine Bennet (Royal Holloway, UoL); Anna Monro (LSE); Jaspreet Nijjar (Brunel University); Radhika Pradhan (LSE)
 - **Moderator:** Lizzie Hobbs (LSE)

12.45 - 2.00pm: Catered lunch (Centre Building 1.05)

- Art by **Anna Rohmann (Goldsmiths University)**

2.00 - 3.30pm: Session Three (Centre Building 1.03 & 1.04)

- **Panel 3A: Labours of Coping, Caring, and Life-Giving (CBG.1.03)**
 - **Speakers:** Carina Uchida (Oxford University); Chiara Chiaravoli and Sophie Legros (LSE); Daryn Howland (SOAS); Fathima Zehba (University College London)
 - **Moderator:** Malena Bastida-Antich (LSE)
- **WORKSHOP: This is NOT a Book Club: Abolitionist Visions and Collective Organising (CBG.1.04)**
 - Led by the Abolitionist Book Club members: (Baljit Kaur (she/her), Nadia Buyse (she/her/they/them), Charlotte Fraser (she/her), Katharina Hendrickx (she/her), Joy Stacey (she/her/they/them) & supported by the Sussex Centre for Cultural Studies.

3.30 - 3.45pm: Break with tea, coffee and biscuits (Centre Building 1.05)

3.45 - 5.15pm: Session Four (Centre Building 1.03 & 1.04)

- **Panel 4: Feminist Knowledges, Otherwise (CBG.1.03)**
 - **Speakers:** Blanca Larraín (Cambridge University); Daniela Meneses (Cambridge University) & Rachel Randall (Queen Mary, University of London); Phoebe Martin (King's College London); Suraiya Asmau Maisutura Banu (SOAS)
 - **Moderator:** Senel Wanniarachchi (LSE)
- **Performance Workshops (CBG.1.04)**
 - 15:45 - 16:25: **Kinti Orellana Matute (Queen Mary, University of London)**
 - 16:25 - 16:35: BREAK
 - 16:35 - 17:15: **Lina Ashour (SOAS)**

5.30 - 7.00pm: Evening Roundtable (Wolfson Theatre LG.01, Chen Kin Ku Building)

- **Breaking the Silos of Solidarity: Palestinian Liberation and the Commitment to Resistance**
 - **Speakers:** Howie Rechavia-Taylor (LSE); Sarona Bedwan (Makan); Akanksha Mehta (Goldsmiths for Palestine); Jasmin Paneswar (Goldsmiths for Palestine)
 - **Moderator:** Alia Amirali (LSE)

7.00 - 8.15pm: Reception (8th floor, Chen Kin Ku Building)

- DJ set/performance: 'Black Creative Praxis' by Christiana (Roni) Ajai-Thomas (she/her)



Department of
Gender Studies

Panel 1A: Decolonizing Solidarities, Imagining Communities

9.30 - 11.00am in CBG.1.03

Hannah El-Silimy (she/her) - *At the Borderlines of Activism and Academia: the Limits and Potential of Community-Based Decolonial Feminist Research for Early Career Researchers*

- Dr Hannah El-Silimy is a feminist activist and researcher who has been working with ethnic minority, Indigenous and women's rights movements in Asia for fifteen years. She is the co-founder and former Director of Weaving Bonds Across Borders, a transnational Global South network of Indigenous and ethnic minority women peacebuilders and activists based in Chiang Mai, Thailand. She completed her PhD in Political Science and Indigenous Politics at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in 2023.

Kanwal Hameed (she/her) & Esraa Al-Muftah (she/her) - *Colonialism, Capitalism and Archives in the Gulf*

- Esraa Al-Muftah is an assistant professor in the College of Education at Qatar University. She holds a PhD in Educational studies from the University of British Columbia, and is interested in the relationship between academic mobility, internationalization, and knowledge production.
- Kanwal Hameed is a Post-Doctoral researcher at the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter, where she completed her PhD. She is interested in modern histories of the Gulf/ MENA regions, critical historiography, gender studies and political movements.

Luana Paloma Sacristán (she/her) - *Reimagining Transitional Justice From Abya Yala: A Decolonial Feminist Analysis of 'Nature as a Victim of Conflict'*

- Luana is a London-based feminist researcher. She holds an MSc in Gender, Peace and Security from the LSE, an MA in Sustainable Development Management from the Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in Germany, and a BA in International Relations from the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico. Her research interests include indigenous studies, the intersection of gender, race and militarization/occupation, social movements, alternative forms of justice, and majority world narratives of human rights.

Moderator: Ting-Sian Liu (they/she) is a PhD researcher at LSE's Department of Gender Studies. Their research explores Indigenous queer subjects and queer activism in Taiwan, analysing how racial injustice intersects with gender and sexuality through the lens of settler colonialism. Ting-Sian holds an MA in Gender Studies from SOAS, University of London and a BA in Anthropology from National Taiwan University, and is a member of the Engenderings Editorial Collective.

Panel 1B: Breaking the Silence: Survivor-Centered Approaches to Sexual Violence

9.30 - 11.00am in CBG.1.04

Francesca Baldwin (she/her) - *'Which Suffering Do You Tell?': Building Solidarities Amongst Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV)*

- Francesca Baldwin is a post-doctoral research associate in History at the University of Exeter. Her research maps the diverse and dynamic lives of women in war in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, with a particular emphasis on survivors of conflict-related gender-based violence.

Julieta Baker (she/her) - *Abortion and Sexual Embodiment Across Cultures*

- I am a mother of two and doctoral researcher at Brunel University. My thesis blends evolutionary and feminist embodiment perspectives to unravel the complexities in culture, parenting, and fertility decisions. Additionally, I'm a dedicated birth and postpartum doula, supporting those journeying into parenthood. I am passionate about community centered research with my interests also covering abortion rights, psychological abuse in intimate relationships, and the multifaceted realm of sexuality.

Kai Grygier (he/him) - *How do childhood sexual abuse survivors experience and resist stigmatisation? A survivor community led conceptualisation*

- Kai Grygier is a doctoral researcher at the University of Sussex. He also works as a therapist in private practice in London and is part of the Survivors' Collective – a grassroots activist group by and for survivors of childhood sexual abuse. His research focuses on sexual violence against children and young people, and experiences of stigmatisation. He is currently conducting participatory action research with students and staff members in colleges, exploring how we can develop collective anti-stigma resistance strategies.

Molly Ackhurst (she/her) - *Interrogating the Ethics and Risks of a Survivor-Led Feminist Politics*

- With over a decade of experience in sexual violence support Molly's work conceptualises, and reckons with, the stuckness within feminist politics around sexual violence and justice. In doing so she contributes to a broader abolitionist feminist project that seeks to unstick from carceral systems, structures, and logics.

Moderator: Aynura Akbaš (she/her) is a PhD researcher at LSE's Department of Gender Studies. Her research explores the intersections of gender and militarism within the context of Bosnian women veterans' lived experiences, through the lens of critical feminist historiography. Holding an MRes in History from Royal Holloway, UoL, she also contributes as an archivist and researcher for the War Childhood Museum, a transnational memory project dedicated to the experience of growing up during the war. She finds joy in exploring feelings and experiences through art making.

Panel 2A: Digital Drives of Queer Desire: Fugitive Affects & Dangerous Complicities

11.15am -12.45pm in CBG.1.03

Abel Guerra (he/him) and Limichi Okamoto (he/him) - *Death Becomes Them: Metaphorising Grief in (de)humanised Trans Lives*

- Abel Guerra is a LAHP/AHRC PhD researcher in Media and Communications at the London School of Economics. He holds a bachelor's and master's degree from the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil. While his current research investigates the epistemic and infrastructural dimensions of platformisation, focusing on Uber and the intersections between datafication, labour and spatial knowledge, his work also focuses on reflexivity, particularly through his own positionality as a trans and migrant researcher based in London, doing research in/about Brazil.
- Limichi Okamoto is a PhD Researcher at the LSE. His research revolves around how movement participants and non-participants consider particular tactics legitimate strategies of enacting active citizenship. Drawing from media & communications, gender studies, and political philosophy, he aims to explore the discourses that influence conceptions of citizenship, civic practices, and dissent, and empirical questions as to the kinds of citizenship that are emerging.

Ekabali Ghosh (they/she) - *Kink and LGBTIQ+ Solidarities in India: a Tapestry of Desire and Resistance*

- Ekabali Ghosh is a PhD student at SOAS, University of London. Her work is grounded in political movements especially in India where she has lived most of her life. Her broad area of interest is sexual politics. In her spare time, she travels through strange parts of the internet and presents the world with the choicest memes.

Nikhil Dharmaraj (any pronouns) - *Homonationalist HCI: A Trans-of-Color Critique of Zionist Complicity within Grindr*

- Nikhil Dharmaraj is an MPhil candidate in the Ethics of AI, Data, and Algorithms at the University of Cambridge and an alum of Harvard University in Computer Science and South Asian Studies. Across creative, academic, and political mediums, Nikhil's work aims to situate "AI" technologies within historical structures of power and violence from trans-feminist, anti-colonial, and anti-Zionist perspectives, while foregrounding complicity as a primary ethical obligation.

Tanvi Kanchan (they/them) - *"Instagram is like a karela": Transnational digital queer politics and online censorship and surveillance in India*

- Tanvi Kanchan is a PhD candidate and teaching assistant in the Department of Politics and International Studies at SOAS University of London, researching Indian queer/trans digital cultures. They hold an MA in International Journalism from SOAS and a BMM in Journalism from University of Mumbai. They are Co-Managing Editor of the DiSCo (Digital Studies Collective) Journal, funded by CHASE AHRC. They have previously worked as a journalist and in research communications, covering gender, sexuality, politics, music and culture, and digital justice.

Moderator: Luma Mantilla Garino (they/elle/ella/él) is a PhD researcher at LSE's Gender Department. Their research examines the sense-making practices and onto-epistemic registers of *disidencias sexo-genéricas* (sex-gender dissident politics) in Quito, Ecuador. Luma holds an MA in Social Policy from Sciences Po Paris and a BA from Wesleyan University, and is a member of the Engenderings Editorial Collective. They enjoy painting, creative writing, wild swims, hiking, playing with friends/lovers, *terrazas al sol y garitos de mala muerte con perreo intenso*.

Panel 2B: Abolition, Borders & Carceralities

11.15am -12.45pm in CBG.1.04

Aine Bennet (she/her) - *Exceeding homonationalism? Bisexual+ asylum and undermining bordering*

- Aine is a PhD student at Royal Holloway, University of London where she researches bisexual asylum claims in the United Kingdom and France, and how their treatment by the state and support sectors reproduces the border and understandings of multi-gender attraction. She is broadly interested in critical migration studies, border abolitionism and queer security studies. She is also involved in queer and migrant solidarity organising in London.

Anna Monro (she/her) - *Criminality Beyond Crime? The Case of California's Three Strikes Law*

- My name is Anna, and I hold a MSc in Gender, Development, and Globalisation from the London School of Economics, graduating in 2023. With a keen interest in decolonial feminism and anti-carceral politics, I aspire to be a scholar-activist. I am always eager to learn from my peers and to continuously cultivate a transnational feminist network. This conference happens to be my first so I'm excited to delve into meaningful discussions and contribute to interdisciplinary and collaborative knowledge production!

Jaspreet Nijjar (she/her) - *Female Masculinity and Transgressive Temporality: How Orange is the New Black Recontextualizes Prisoner Agency*

- Jaspreet K. Nijjar is an AHRC-funded PhD student in the Department of Social Sciences, Media, and Communications at Brunel University London. Through an analysis of the U.S. women's prison drama, *Orange is the New Black* (2013-2019), her PhD aims to further understanding of the global Prison Industrial Complex by synthesizing ideas around narrative with feminist theories of embodiment. She has written for journals including *Communication, Culture & Critique* and *The Journal of Men's Studies*, and has served as Conference & Events Officer for the Feminist Studies Association.

Radhika Pradhan (she/her) - *Home as a Prison: In-home Incarceration of Domestic Violence Survivors through the Legal System in India*

- Radhika Pradhan is a frontline Domestic Abuse caseworker, specialising in providing support to minoritised communities in the UK. Radhika also works with community groups for upskilling, trauma-healing and storytelling. In addition to this, she is crafting a feminist activist handbook blending practical experiences with scholarly insights. She is also a Researcher at the *Can You Hear Us?* Podcast. Radhika began her journey in grassroots Bihar, and as an aspiring gender researcher believes that academia and hands-on fieldwork inform each other.

Moderator: Lizzie Hobbs (she/her) is a final year PhD student in the Department of Gender Studies at LSE. Her research focuses on borders, carcerality and abolition in the context of the UK's 'Hostile Environment' and the (after)lives of austerity. She specifically thinks through how race and coloniality construct - and are constructed by - discourses on migrant masculinities and the work these logics do to reaffirm racial bordering. This work focuses on the inseparability of discourses on masculinities, process of racialisation, criminalisation and carceral-borderwork. Lizzie continues to work as an immigration caseworker in the migrant right's sector in East London and is part of several activist and organising spaces.

Panel 3A: Labours of Coping, Caring, and Life-Giving

2.00 - 3.30pm in CBG.1.03

Carina Uchida (they/she) - *Doing the Dirty Work: Social Reproductive Labour in Armed Rebel Organization*

- Carina Uchida is a DPhil candidate in International Relations based at Pembroke College, University of Oxford. Her doctorate project explores the role of social reproduction and gendered divisions of labour in armed rebel organisations. On a more theoretical level, they examine the limitations of traditional philosophies of labour, the relationship between care and freedom, and what it means to care for each other under conditions of political instability and violence. They are also a research consultant for University of Oxford's Global Security Programme where she analyses changes in conflict – particularly in Myanmar, Colombia and Somalia – towards civilian insecurity and its implications for sustainable peace. Prior to starting their DPhil, Carina worked at the International Labour Organisation for several years specialising in labour market analysis for highly feminised sectors in Asia and the Pacific.

Chiara Chiaravoli and Sophie Legros - *Diverse motherhood experiences in contexts of violence in Antioquia Colombia*

- Chiara Chiaravoli is a PhD student at the LSE Department of International Development working on environmental conflicts and the overlapping between environmental and reproductive justice in coca-farming and artisanal gold-mining communities in Northern Colombia.
- Sophie is a PhD student at the LSE Department of International Development researching change and continuity in gender norms and the household division of labour in urban neighbourhoods in Medellin, Colombia.

Daryn Howland (she/her) - *Reproducing Racial Capitalism: Interrogating Racialized Labour Migration and Social Reproduction in the Arab Gulf*

- Daryn Howland is a feminist political economist of global development and a Doctoral researcher in the Department of Development Studies at SOAS, University of London, with over 8 years of experience conducting research throughout the Middle East Region in academia, think tanks and international organizations. Her research focuses on processes of globalization, the political economy of labour migration, gendered forms of work and social reproduction.

Fathima Zehba - *Empowered Pathways: The Daily Mobility of Underprivileged Women Workers in Urban Space: A Case Study of Kochi, Kerala, India*

- I'm an Architect and Urban Planner dedicated to fostering inclusive cities, especially for marginalized groups. My journey as a feminist researcher began with an internship at India's National Institute of Urban Affairs. Working with the Urban Management Center and the National Urban Livelihood Mission, I focused on empowering vulnerable communities, particularly women. I'm currently a PhD student and Commonwealth Split Site Scholar at University College London, exploring gender-inclusive urban planning to advocate for equitable urban spaces.

Moderator: Malena Bastida Antich (she/ella) is a PhD researcher at LSE's Department of Gender Studies. Her research project focuses on the exploitation of racialised and feminised labour in the Spanish informal economy of care through the lens of social reproduction theory. Malena holds an MA in Social Policy, Labour and Welfare from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (2021) and a BA in International Relations and Chinese from SOAS (2020). She is a member of the Engenderings Editorial Collective.

WORKSHOP: This is NOT a Book Club: Abolitionist Visions and Collective Organising

2.00 - 3.30pm in CBG.1.04

The Abolitionist Book Club (ABC) is a project running from November 2023 to June 2024 and is supported by The Sussex Centre for Cultural Studies (SCCS). The project's central theme, abolitionism, is a call to abolish institutions of state coercion, such as police, prisons, psychiatric detention, detention centres, borders, arms and the military. It hopes to provide space for those wanting to think, learn and act together.

Baljit Kaur (she/her)

Nadia Buyse (they/she)

Charlotte Fraser (she/her)

Katharina Hendrickx (she/her)

Loy Stacey (they/she)

Panel 4: Feminist Knowledges, Otherwise

3.45 - 5.15pm in CBG 1.03

Blanca Larraín - *From #Metoo to the feminist funa in Chile. Online public shaming as a feminist practice for social change: a critical analysis of current feminist movements in LA*

- Dr Blanca Larrain is a social scientist and has a PhD in Social Development Planning at University College of London, UK. She has worked as a researcher, consultant, and practitioner, exploring social development, public policies analysis, citizen-state relationships (governance and participation) as well as gender and inclusion, mainly in Latin America and the UK. She is currently working as a Research Associate at the Mental Health | Policy | Economics Group at the Department of Psychiatry, University of Cambridge. She is investigating the social policy and practice related to harmful effects of digitalization on mental health, particularly for young people in Europe

Daniela Meneses (she/her) and Rachel Randall (she/her) - *Creative interventions in the archive: Recuperating photographs of wet-nurses in the Courret Archive*

- Daniela is a PhD(c) in Latin American Studies at the University of Cambridge. For her PhD, she is creating an archive of feelings for pets, and studying what it reveals about affective public cultures in contemporary Peru. At Cambridge, she is also a co-convenor of the Ambivalent Archives research network. Daniela holds an MSc in Gender (Sexuality) from the LSE and a Law Degree from Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú. Her PhD is funded by the Harding Distinguished Postgraduate Scholars Programme.
- Rachel Randall is a Reader in Latin American Studies at Queen Mary University of London. Her research encompasses Latin American cultural studies, with a focus on film and comparative and creative approaches. She's the author of *Paid to Care: Domestic Workers in Contemporary Latin American Culture* (University of Texas Press, 2024) and *Children on the Threshold in Contemporary Latin American Cinema* (Lexington Books, 2017).

Phoebe Martin (she/her) - *The body as methodology in feminist research*

- Phoebe is a research associate at KCL for the project 'Visual and Embodied Methodologies for Addressing Intersectional Gendered Violence'. Her research looks at the intersections of art and feminist activism. Her PhD (UCL, 2022) looked at how feminist activists in Peru use creative interventions around gender violence and reproductive justice. These actions create new spaces for social and cultural change in difficult political contexts. Her research has also looked at the intersections of art and feminism, particularly reproductive rights activism.

Suraiya Asmau Maisutura Banu (she/her) - *Queer Intimacies, Matricentricity and the Home in Northern Nigeria*

- Suraiya is a PhD candidate at SOAS University, focusing on gender and sexuality in northern Nigeria. Prior to SOAS, she was an Arthur Helton Human Rights Fellow working on issues of gender, religion and law with the Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa. She is a good cook.

Moderator: Senel Wanniarachchi (he/him) is a final year PhD Researcher at the LSE Department of Gender Studies. His research is interested in understanding how discourses on 'culture' and 'heritage' are instrumentalised in frameworks that are anti-imperialist, but also nationalist, patriarchal, heteronormative and anti-human rights in the postcolony. Senel is the Research Coordinator for the AHRC Project on Transnational 'Anti-Gender' Movements and Resistance: Narratives and Interventions. His research has appeared in the *Cultural Politics Journal* and is set to appear in the upcoming *Handbook on Contemporary Sri Lanka*. In Sri Lanka, Senel co-founded an activist organisation called *Hashtag Generation* which works in the intersections of human rights and technology.

Performance Workshops

3.45 - 5.15pm in CBG 1.04

3.45 - 4.25 PM: Kinti Orellana Matute (they/them) - *Kari-warmi: an embodied cosmological reflection on 'gender'*

- Kinti Orellana Matute is a Kichwa-Kañari political theorist from Gualaceo (Ecuador) whose work centres on Runa Kawsay (Andean Philosophy) as a source of inspiration for doing global politics otherwise. Philosophical and transdisciplinary in nature, his research covers cosmology and the politics of time, critical and postcolonial approaches in International Relations, as well as the politics of knowledge production. He's currently a PhD candidate at Queen Mary University of London and co-editor of Millennium: Journal of International Studies based at the LSE.

4.25 - 4.35 PM: BREAK

4.35 - 5.15 PM: Lina Ashour - *Extra-phenomenal knowing and othered being*

- Lina is an Egyptian, feminist speaker and community organiser. She is a PhD candidate at SOAS, University of London and her research focuses on the politics of knowledge production and rural Egyptian women.

Breaking the Silos of Solidarity: Palestinian Liberation and the Commitment to Resistance

5.30 - 7.00pm in the Wolfson Theatre CKK.LG.01

This roundtable is aimed as an opportunity for our communities to reflect on what we have learnt, personally, collectively and politically, from our varied forms of solidarity with the struggle for Palestinian liberation. In recent months, we have gained a much clearer understanding of the potentials, as well the limitations, of our solidarities with Palestinian people, whether by participating in resistive action within academic spaces, at street protests, in community-based organizations, or through social media. Meanwhile, we continue to witness how, across the world, support for Palestinian resistance is drawing an increasingly hostile—if not altogether violent—response from university administrators; all as many purportedly critical scholars, activists, and politicians stay silent in the sidelines. This roundtable discussion gathers scholars, activists, and organizers who are deeply committed to Palestinian liberation while working in various fields, and seeks to offer our communities a critical space of reflection about our commitments and solidarities with Palestinian resistance.

Howie Rechavia-Taylor (they/them) is a fellow in the International Relations department at LSE, where they convene a class on genocide and collective violence. Their work sits at the intersection between settler colonial, queer, and Jewish studies. Their forthcoming book, entitled: “Trespass in Germany: The Post-Holocaust Politics of Settler Colonialism” deals with the aftermath of both the Shoah and settler colonialism in contemporary Germany. Howie also works with several groups across borders for a diasporic Jewish future that rejects both secularity and Zionism.

Sarona Bedwan (Makan) (she/her) has a Masters in Art & Politics from Goldsmiths University. She spent five years co-organizing community efforts to protect low-income workers and unionize students in cities across the Southern US. She’s published in *Kohl: A Journal for Body and Gender Research* (2020) and other platforms

LSE Palestine Society is committed to providing an uplifting space for all interested in the cause for Palestinian liberation. Our events aim to engage with and celebrating Palestinian history and culture, broadening our knowledge of Palestine as well as bringing together the diverse experiences and perspectives of Palestinians around the world. We hope to build a caring community where we can collectively imagine and work towards a free Palestine.

Jasmin Panesar (they/them) is a community organiser from South London. They organise with The Rights Collective and South Asians for Palestine. They are a researcher for the People's Tribunal on police killings in custody and were part of the Goldsmiths for Palestine occupation in 2024. They have a background in physics and currently completing an MA at Goldsmith's.

Breaking the Silos of Solidarity: Palestinian Liberation and the Commitment to Resistance

5.30 - 7.00pm in the Wolfson Theatre CKK.LG.01

Akanksha Mehta (she/her) Dr Akanksha Mehta is a queer feminist educator, researcher, writer, photographer, and community organiser based in SE London and Pune, India. She is Senior Lecturer in Gender, Race and Cultural Studies at Goldsmiths and co-plotter of Insurgent Knowledges, Solidarity Kitchen, and Crip Theory Reading Group.

Moderator: Alia Amirali (she/her) began her PhD in Gender Studies at LSE in 2019. Her dissertation explores political subjectivities of Pakistani domestic workers in Islamabad and the possibilities for collective action that arise therefrom. In addition to being fascinated by the idea, processes, and stories of 'becoming', Alia is interested in exploring prevailing theoretical discourses on politics and would particularly like to break out of 'poststructuralist' versus 'Marxist' versus 'feminist' binaries which (in her view) have debilitated, rather than strengthened, the fight against neoliberalism.

Reception

7.00 - 8.15pm on the 8th floor, Chen Kin Ku Building

DJ set/performance: 'Black Creative Praxis' by Christiana (Roni) Ajai-Thomas (she/her)

- Christiana is a DJ and a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at the LSE. Her thesis, 'Booty dancing around the world: Theorising anti-Blackness through Black diasporic movements,' views Black social dance as bodily archive of diasporic movement across the globe and a means for understanding the way anti-Blackness structures the world. In her writing and music, she foregrounds autobiographical explorations that extend outward from her own body to interrogate how we shape and are shaped by global power.



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