

# EPIDEMICS AND OTHERING: THE BIOPOLITICS OF COVID-19 IN HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

Digital Symposium, Ruhr-University Bochum, October 1-2, 2021

## SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

### Friday 1st October

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. (CET)

#### ***Welcome and Opening Remarks***

Heike Steinhoff & Rebecca Brückmann

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (CET)

## **Global History, (Post-)Colonialism, and Pandemics**

Panel Chair: Rebecca Brückmann, Ruhr-University Bochum

**“...to care for these poor ones when they don’t understand.”**

**Smallpox, Indigenous Populations, and State Power in Late 18th Century New Spain**

Martin Gabriel | University of Klagenfurt

**Civilizing the Natives with Modern Medicine: Ideas and Strategies to Implement Public Hygiene in Japan-Ruled Taiwan (1895-1945)**

Anke Scherer | Ruhr-University Bochum

### **Pandemics and Coloniality: From Chronicles of the Indies to Covid-19 Narratives**

Romana Radlwimmer | University of Tübingen

2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (CET)

*Break*

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (CET)

## **Memorial Culture and the Politics of Representation in Pandemics**

Panel Chair: Dietmar Meinel, University Duisburg-Essen

### **Covid-19 and Holocaust Representations in Israeli Media and Social Media**

Liat Steir-Livny | Sapir Academic College, The Open University, Israel

### **“Essentially” Expendable: The Biopolitics of Disability, Working in/through Pandemic, and Twitter as a Site of Resistance**

Adrianna Michell | McMaster University

### **Pandemics, Public Art, and Memorials**

Ingrid Gessner | Pädagogische Hochschule Vorarlberg

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. (CET)

*Break*

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. (CET)

## **(Re-)Reading Literature in Pandemics**

Panel Chair: Lena Mattheis, University Duisburg-Essen

**Reading in a Pandemic: Discovering the Current and Historic Influence of Literature**

Emily Eaton (Co-Authors: Fiona P. McDonald and Sean Lawrence) | University of British Columbia

**Surveillance State and Increased “Othering”: Reading José Saramago’s Blindness through the Lens of COVID-19 Pandemic**

Simran Dhingra | Jamia Millia Islamia

5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. (CET)

*Break*

5:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (CET)

**Re-Negotiating Discourses on HIV/AIDS during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Panel Chair: Rebecca Brückmann and Heike Steinhoff, Ruhr-University Bochum

**COVID-19, Aids, and the Difference of Sexuality**

Simon Dickel | Folkwang University Essen

**The Incommensurability of Pandemics: Gay Men, COVID-19 and the Metaphoric Privatisation of the AIDS Crisis**

Nikolaas Deketelaere | Catholic University of Paris

**“The Great Work Begins”: Keeping the Memory of AIDS Alive During the Covid-19 Pandemic**

Florian Zitzelsberger | University of Passau

## **HIV and AIDS Epidemic and Its Afterlives: Intersections with Zimbabwean Mobilities and Learning from the Margins**

Roselyne Masamha | University of Hull

Lennon Mhishi | University of Liverpool

# Saturday 2nd October

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. (CET)

## **Mobilities, Migration, and Spatial Dynamics in Pandemics**

Panel Chair: Chris Katzenberg, Ruhr-University Bochum

### **Borders and Othering at the Fringes of the EU in the Times of COVID-19 Pandemics**

Marijana Hameršak | Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research

Marta Stojić Mitrović | The Institute of Ethnography SASA

### **The Viral Exclusion and Discrimination of Undocumented Migrants in Mexico during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Michela Venturi | University of Aalborg

### **Back to the Nature: COVID-19, Utopia and Socio-Spatial Dynamics in Brazil**

Danielle Heberle Viegas | Munich Centre for Global History – LMU

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (CET)

*Break*

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (CET)

## **Constructing Bodies and Performing Identities in Pandemics**

## **Identities in Pandemics**

Panel Chair: Heike Steinhoff, Ruhr-University Bochum

### **Playing Fat? Digital (Sports) Gaming and Epidemic Imaginaries**

Martin Lütke | John-F.-Kennedy-Institute for North American Studies

### **“Sweet Support”: Donuts, COVID-15 and Anti-Fat Bias in Media Discourses**

Evangelia Kindinger | Humboldt University of Berlin

### **We Against the Virus: Performing Masculinity in the Context of Covid-19**

Silke Felber | University of Vienna

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. (CET)

*Break*

3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. (CET)

## **Conspiracy Narratives and Processes of Othering in Pandemics**

Panel Chair: Anna Bongers, Ruhr-University Bochum

### **The Noisome Pestilence: COVID 19 Spiritual Warfare and Conspiracy Theories**

Abimbola A. Adelakun | University of Texas at Austin

### **Germs, Needles, and Conspiracy Theories**

Martin Tschiggerl | University of Saarland

### **Othering the Other-than-Human: Bats, Contagion, and Vulnerable Populations**

René Dietrich | University of Eichstätt

5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (CET)

## *Closing Remarks*

You are also welcome to download the full program:

[Epidemics and Othering Symposium Programm Final](#)

**Download**