



TESTIMONY, TRAUMA AND SOCIAL SUFFERING: NEW FRAMINGS/NEW DIRECTIONS

PROGRAM

Venue: Research School of Humanities, Old Canberra House, ANU

14-16 April 2009

Conveners: Rosanne Kennedy (ANU) and Gillian Whitlock (Univ. of Qld)

Tuesday, April 14th: Testimony in National and Transnational Contexts

12.15 – 1:15pm: Registration & Sandwiches (Old Canberra House, RSH)

1:15 – 1:30pm: Conference Open and Welcome

1:30 – 2:15pm: **Opening Talk:** Nina Philadelpoff-Puren (Monash Univ.): *Poems from Guantanamo: Testimonial Literature and the Politics of Genre*

Chair: Kate Douglas (Flinders Univ.)

PANEL 1: 2.15 – 3:45pm: Testimony and Diaspora

Chair: Tony Simoes da Silva (Univ. of Wollongong)

Mammad Aidani (Univ. of Melbourne), Poetic Testimony: Suffering and Trauma amongst Iranian Diasporas

Julie Fletcher (Edith Cowan Univ.), "Our will against their might": Testimony as Political Action in the Tibetan Diaspora

Simone Dennis (ANU) & Megan Warin (Durham Univ.), Where the Unspeakable Dwells: Persian Women's Enfolding of Traumatic Memory

3:45 – 4.15pm: *Afternoon tea*

4.15 – 5:45pm: Screening: *Waltz with Bashir* (2008), Old Canberra House

CONFERENCE DRINKS & DINNER from 6:30 pm, Vivaldi's Restaurant, ANU

Wednesday, April 15th: From Testimony to Witnessing

PANEL 2: 9.30 – 11.00am:
Mediating Trauma: Testimony and the Constitution of Witnessing Publics
Chair: Rosemary Jolly, (Queens Univ.)

Rosanne Kennedy (ANU), Decolonizing Trauma Studies: Israeli and Palestinian Testimony and Transnational Witnessing Publics

Gillian Whitlock (Univ. of Qld), "Forbidden Lie\$": What Is to be Said about Honor Killing?

11.00 – 11.30: *Morning tea*

PANEL 3: 11:30 – 1.00pm: Witnessing through Media
Chair: Lynne Bell, (Univ. of Saskatchewan)

Anna Poletti (Charles Sturt Univ.), Digital Storytelling: the Tensions of Participatory Media and Institutional Uses of Testimony

Cathy Summerhayes (ANU), *Waltz With Bashir* (2008): Animated Film and the Narration of Trauma Stories.

Colm McNaughton (Independent Documentary Maker, Melbourne), Representing Intergenerational Trauma in Ireland on Radio

1:00 – 2.00pm: *Lunch*

PANEL 4: 2.00 – 3.30pm: The Politics of Testimony
Chair: Nina Philadelpoff-Puren (Monash Univ.)

Kudzai Matereke (Univ. of NSW), "My Protector Not My Tormenter": Muffled Testimonies and Mortgaged Citizenry in Postcolonial Zimbabwe

Amy Nethery (Deakin Univ.), *The People's Inquiry into Detention* as a "Theatre of Justice": Asylum Seekers and the Narrative of Asylum

Lia Kent (Univ. of Melbourne), Transitional Justice and the Politics of Victimhood in East Timor

3.30 – 4.00pm: *Afternoon tea*

PANEL 5: 4.00 – 5.00pm: Visual Media: Direct and Indirect Witnessing
Chair: Cathy Summerhayes (ANU)

Lynne Bell (Univ. of Saskatchewan), Decolonizing Visual Testimony

Johannes Klabbbers (Charles Sturt Univ.), The Art of Indirect Witnessing: Doris Salcedo, Claude Lanzmann and Serge Klarsfeld

Thursday April 16th: Testimony at the Margins: Stigma, Silence and the Child

9.15 – 10.30am:

Chair: Kay Schaffer (Univ. of Adelaide)

Rosemary Jolly (Queens Univ.), Testimony, Trauma Theory and the Multigenerational Effects of Violence: South African Child and Adolescent Testimony

10.30 – 11.00am: *Morning tea*

PANEL 6: 11:00 – 12.30pm: Traumatic Memory and the Public Gaze

Chair: Rosanne Kennedy (ANU)

Tony Simoes da Silva (Univ. of Wollongong), "The Quest for Belonging in Hostile Lands": Narrating Trauma in Recent White Zimbabwean Life Writing

Linda Devereaux (ANU), In the Public Gaze: Masking Traumatic Memories of Conflict in the Congo

Adam Brown (Deakin Univ.), "Can One Be So Guilty for Having Survived?": Privileged Jews, Holocaust Testimony, and the Paradox of Judgment

12:30 – 1:30pm: *Lunch*

PANEL 7: 1:30 – 3:00pm: Childhood Trauma: Ethical Challenges

Chair: Rosemary Jolly (Queens Univ.)

Kate Douglas (Flinders Univ.), Ethical Responses to Childhood Trauma Testimony: Mandates for Scholarship

Marie Lovrod and Darlene Domsby (Univ. of Saskatchewan), Childhood and Youth Trauma Testimony: Toward an "Ethics of Attention"

Donna Seto (ANU), Children Born of Sexual Violence in Conflict: Constructing Secondary Trauma

3.00 – 3:30pm: *Afternoon tea*

3:30 – 4:30pm:

Chair: Gillian Whitlock (Univ. of Qld)

Kay Schaffer (Univ. of Adelaide), Testimony and the Ethics of Witnessing: After the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa

4:30 – 5.00pm: Closing Comments and Discussion

5:00 – 6pm: *Closing Drinks*

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