



"Memory and Trauma" International Conference

6-7 December 2025
Birkbeck, University of London / Online

organised by
London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research

Programme

9:00-10:30 Session 1:

Chair: Daniel C. Charlton

Sunday A Adegbenro, University of Kansas, Lawrence (USA)

Pain, Stigma, and Digital Memory in Nigerian Sickle Cell Narratives

Maria Lucka, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg (Germany)

Dream[A]: *Disruptive Echoing Explained* Through Tàr (2022)

Laura Stephenson, University of Westminster (UK)

Red Herrings & Repression: The Narrativization of Trauma, Guilt & Amnesia in the *Machinist*

Sonia Front, University of Silesia, Katowice (Poland)

Our Digital Future? Erasing the Trauma in Temi Oh's Novel *More Perfect*

10:30-10:45 Tea/Coffee

10:45-12:15 Session 2:

Chair: Sunday A Adegbenro

Jennifer Orange, Toronto Metropolitan University (Canada)

Feminist and Future-Oriented: Can Legal Processes Address the Intergenerational Harm of Sexual Violence?

Gisela Rovira Gay, Universitat de Vic – Universitat Central de Catalunya (Spain)

The Weight of the Womb: Maternal Trauma and Its Echoes in Maggie O'Farrell's *Instructions for a Heatwave*

Daniel C. Charlton, Montana State University (USA)

Negotiating the Boundaries of Identity, Trauma, and Personhood in Ocean Vuong's Works

Juanmo Xu, University of Warwick (UK)

The Stuttering Domesticity: A Heterotopology of Trauma in Ann Quin's Writing

12:15-12:45 Lunch

12:45-14:00 Session 3:

Chair: Jennifer Orange

Robyn Murning, Erasmus University Rotterdam (Netherlands)

Freedom Foretold and Trauma Retold: Rainbow Nationalism and Post-Apartheid State Narratives in the Construction of South Africa's 'Born-Free' Generation

Roman Smirnov, Leibniz University Hannover (Germany)

Constructing a National Trauma: Russian Ideology and Propaganda and Anti-Western Attitude of Russians

Yassir Jakani, Ruhr University Bochum (Germany)

(In)Visible Violence and Contested Traces in German Memory Culture: Recognizing Victims of Right-Wing Extremist Violence

14:00-14:15 Tea/Coffee

14:15-15:30 Session 4:

Chair: TBC

Amanda LaMonica, Murray State University (USA)

“His Comforts Sacrificed to Ambition”: Narrative Battles Between Personal Trauma and Public Memory in the Published Journal of a Scottish Soldier

Aaron Landau, Ben Gurion University of the Negev (Israel)

Memory, Trauma, and the Paraguayan War in R. B. C. Graham’s “A Meeting” (1912)

Karen Heald, Wrexham University, Wales (UK)

Poetics of Place: Memoirs

15:30-15:45 Tea/Coffee

15:45-17:00 Session 5:

Chair: Roman Smirnov

Domantė Vaišvilaitė, Gabija Bankauskaitė, Vilnius University, Kaunas Faculty (Lithuania)

Home, Trauma, and Narrative: Literary Responses to Displacement

Andrea Nicki, University Canada West (Canada)

The Erasure of Cultural Memory and Suppressed Grief: Healing a Lithuanian Identity

Eliso Pantskhava, Akaki Tsereteli State University (Georgia)

Sally Rooney's Trauma Aesthetics in Georgian Translation

Sunday, 7 December

(Zoom Sessions)

9:00-10:30 Session 6:

Chair: Abu Shahid Abdullah

Philomena Mullen, Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)

Survivor Memory and Institutional Refusal: Racialised Testimony Beyond the Archive

Adrian Arana-Armesto, University of the Basque Country (Spain)

Erased Histories: Memory, Trauma, and the Myth of the Texas Rangers in *Dead Man's Walk* and *Blood Meridian*

Harpreet Kaur, Punjabi University (India)

Narrative as Resistance: Memory, Trauma, and Dalit Histories in *Untouchable Spring*
by G. Kalyana Rao

Zheng Tongyan, University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)

The Fluid Hauntings: Water, Ghosts, and Trauma in Nguyen and Kingston

10:45-12:00 Session 7:

Chair: Iris Rusu

Sarah Caré, Charles University, Prague (Czech Republic)

Xiao Zhang, University of Cambridge (UK)

Dead Mothers and Memory: the Healing Power of Geographical Imagination in
Middle-Grade Fiction

Marta Miquel-Baldellou, University of Lleida (Spain)

A Horror Allegory of the Trauma of the Spanish Civil War in Juanfer Andrés and
Esteban Roel's *Shrew's Nest*

Neslihan Güler-Uğur, Koç University (Türkiye)

Fragmented Selves and Shattered Time: Trauma, Memory, and Representation in Elif
Shafak's *The Gaze*

12:30-13:45 Session 8:

Chair: Noam Tirosh

Ella Banyan, Ben Gurion University of the Negev (Israel)

The Impact of Video Games on Holocaust Remembrance

Eden Boutboul Shtrimberg, Ben Gurion University of the Negev (Israel)

Reframing Mizrahi Memory: Trauma, Identity, and Collective Memory in a Digital
Feminist Community

Ayelet Klein Cohen, Ben Gurion University of the Negev (Israel)

I Inherited My Father's Eyes, Laugh and Trauma: Intergenerational Memory and
Trauma in the Cyprus Exile Community

14:00-15:15 Session 9:

Chair: TBC

Maria Mackinney, Royal Danish Academy (Denmark)

Between Image and Memory: Photography as Therapeutic Practice

Abu Shahid Abdullah, East West University (Bangladesh)

Music as a Refuge: The Symbolic Power of Art in Polanski's *The Pianist*

Jesus Quintero, New York University (USA)

Theatre of Death: The Agony of Omayra Sánchez: Grief Porn, Miração, and the Dramaturgy of Trauma

15:30-16:20 Session 10:

Chair: Jesus Quintero

Iris Rusu, "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu (Romania); University of South Carolina (USA)

Manipulating Memory and Reorganising the Self in Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go* and *The Buried Giant*

H.R. (Hannah) Gordon, SUNY University at Buffalo (USA)

Tidal Spills: Trauma, Temporality, and the Sticky Matter of Intra-Activity

16:40-17:30 Session 11:

Chair: TBC

Raul Algarin, Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain)

Narrativity of Trauma: Memory and Identity in the Post-Yugoslav Novel

Habib Zanzana, University of Scranton (USA)

Between Page and Screen: Trauma, Memory, and Embodied Narrative in *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*