



# congo research network

THE MEETING PLACE OF CONGO RESEARCHERS

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## Congolese Studies: Past, Present, Future

St Antony's College, University of Oxford,

26-27 April 2018

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**Thursday, 26 April 2018.**

**9.00-10.00: Registration (Foyer, Hilda Besse Building)**

**10.00-10.15: Welcome (Nissan Lecture Theatre) - Miles Larmer, Katrien Pype**

10.15-12.30: Parallel Panels 1, 2, 3

Nissan Lecture Theatre:

**Panel 1: An Ambivalent Civil Society: Non-state institutions, governance and daily life in eastern DR Congo**

Panel convenors/chairs: Solange G Fontana and Erik Gobbers

Erik Gobbers, 'Ethnic associations in former Katanga province, Democratic Republic of Congo: a tale of politico-strategic alliances, factionalisms and identity crises'

Solange G Fontana, 'Between War and Peace: North Kivu's Ambivalent Ethnic Associations'

Sarah Katz-Lavigne, 'Conflict, Property Rights, and Corporate Strategies in the Democratic Republic of Congo'

Maarten Hendriks, 'The *Antigang* and the Production of Security in Goma (DRC)'

David Peyton, 'Associations as Property Rights Guarantors? The Politics of Land Defence in Eastern Congo's Urban Centres'

Pavilion Room:

**Panel 2: Visual/Artistic Cultures as Portable Monuments of the Congo**

Panel convenors/chairs: Bambi Ceuppens and Veronique Bragard

Veronique Bragard, 'Literary Palimpsests: reading Congolese women's testimonies in the dramatic performances of Ensler, Nottage and Erika Na Ngai'

Bambi Ceuppens, 'Monuments within Monuments'

Jacob Koster, 'Congolese Contemporary Art and the Reinvention of History: Repurposing the Power Object'

Elaine Sullivan, 'Silhouettes and solids: Aimé Mpane's human figures made of matchsticks and plywood'

Ana Stela de Almeida Cunha, 'Congo beyond the Congo. Doing ethnography in Europe: music and identity in Portugal'

Kasongo Mulenda Kapanga, 'The Darknes *topos* as Congo's Inherent characteristic: The Case of Fiction and Popular Discourse'

Dahrendorf Room:

**Panel 3: Worker housing in Congo. A comparison in past & present**

Panel convenor/chair: Benjamin Rubbers

Johan Lagae and Robby Fivez, 'Housing the cheminots and the dockeurs. The spatial policies of the OTRACO in the Bas-Congo and the port city of Matadi, 1935-1960'

Thomas Hendriks, 'Bored, Nervous and Ecstatic: Life and Affect in a Congolese Logging Camp'

Francesca Pugliese, 'Housing patterns in a frontier mining town. The case of Sakania, DRC'

Daniela Waldburger, 'Kazi na kuwa mfanyakazi - c'était bien à l'époque – conception of work and life by Gécamines workers' in Lubumbashi'

Kristien Geenen, 'The uneasy location of a mining camp in Kolwezi'

Benjamin Rubbers, 'Reflections on the spatial government of mining companies. A genealogy of worker housing in the Congolese copperbelt'

12.30-13.15: lunch break

13.15-15.15: Parallel Panels 4a, 5a, 6

Nissan Lecture Theatre:

**Panel 4a: Colonial Durabilities in the Contemporary Violent Landscape of Congo: 1**

Panel convenor: Charlotte Mertens

Chair: Amandine Lauro

Rene Sephton, 'Chiefs at Night: A Multi-plateau Dialogue on Búmùntù, Gender and Power in the Democratic Republic of Congo'

Chloe Lewis, 'The Making or Re-Making of 'the Rape capital of the World': Exploring colonial durabilities in contemporary responses to sexual violence in DRC'

Emery Kalema, 'Scars, Marked Bodies, and Suffering: The Mulele "Rebellion" in Postcolonial Congo'

Charlotte Mertens, 'Frames of Empire: Sexual Violence and Congo'

Pavilion Room:

**Panel 5a: In searching for "success" (réussite): Congolese representations, social dynamics in the Congo and in the global space: 1**

Panel convenor/chairs: Rosario Giordano and Edoardo Quaretta

Rosario Giordano, 'Ways of living... on the threshold. Mobility and Congolese representations in an interdisciplinary research project'

Edoardo Quaretta, 'School as symbolic medium: Parenting, Education and Social Mobility in High-Katanga (DRC)'

Sandra Federici, 'Mobilité et stratégies d'affirmation des bédéistes de la jeune génération congolaise : le cas de Fati Kabuika'

Dahrendorf Room:

**Panel 6: Whose research? The new Ethical Challenges and Political Economy of Research in DR Congo**

Panel convenors/chairs: Jean-Benoit Falisse and Gauthier Marchais

Jean-Benoît Falisse & Patricja Stys, 'Single-authored papers? Reflections on and explorations of the consequences of the 'data rush' and related dynamics of Western academia on Congo research'

Gauthier Marchais, "The data is gold, and we are the gold-diggers': Reflections on new data collection practices in eastern DRC'

Christoph Vogel, 'How to make it fit? Deviant methodologies, ethical concerns and political problems'

Jen Katshunga, 'Whose Girls Matter? Complicating Ethics and Contesting Girlhoods in DRC'

Lys Alcayna-Stevens, "*Otiki bisu kaka boye?*" (You're going to leave us like this?): Reflections on the (evoked) obligations of an anthropologist in rural Equateur

Jean-Benoît Falisse, 'A political economy of sleeping sickness research and control in the DRC (1993-2017)'

15.15-15.45: coffee break (Buttery, Hilda Besse Building)

15.45-17.45: Parallel panels 4b, 5b, 7

Nissan Lecture Theatre:

**Panel 4b: Colonial Durabilities in the Contemporary Violent Landscape of Congo: 2**

Panel convenor(s): Charlotte Mertens

Chair: Judith Verweijen

Esther Marijnen, 'Gorilla tourism in a war zone: The commodification of war and the (re)colonization of the human-gorilla encounter'

Stephanie Perazzone, 'Semantic and Visual Explorations of the "imperial debris" in Urban Congo'

Christina Mobley, "'They Took Our Power": Colonialism, Violence, and Enduring Destruction of Institutions in Mayombe, Democratic Republic of Congo'

Nephtaly Abassa, 'Le droit congolais: un héritage du colonialisme?' - via Skype

Pavilion Room:

**Panel 5b: In searching for "success" (réussite): Congolese representations, social dynamics in the Congo and in the global space: 2**

Panel convenors/chairs: Rosario Giordano and Edoardo Quaretta

Silvia Riva, 'World literature and success strategies: "multilingual locals" in Congolese literature'

Julien Jeusette, 'Le succès littéraire est-il global ? Le cas de Tram 83 de Fiston Mwanza Mujila'

Roberto Gaudio, 'Remmy Ongala: Mtoro from Congolese Forest to Tanzania sea'

Dahrendorf Room:

**Panel 7: Knowledge Production in (Post)Colonial Congo**

Panel convenor(s): Benoit Henriët

Chair: Miles Larmer

Amandine Lauro, 'Race, Mental Testing and Development: Psychological Expertise in Late Colonial Congo (1945-1960)'

Benoit Henriët, 'At the forefront of the radical revolution'. Postcolonial university and party-state politics in Lubumbashi, 1971-1991'

Donatien Dibwe dia Mwembu, 'Mémoires de Lubumbashi and Katangese urban cultures'

Romain Landmeters, 'Using Ethnography to dispense Justice. Belgian Magistrates in Katanga and their journals (1910-1960)'

**18.00-19.30: Keynote + roundtable (Nissan Lecture Theatre)**

Keynote speaker: Bogumil Jewsiewicki Koss

'DR Congo and its scholars: challenges of relevance/RD Congo et ses chercheurs universitaires: défis de la pertinence'

Chair: Katrien Pype

Roundtable speakers: Filip De Boeck, Nancy Rose Hunt, Emery Kalema, Erik Kennes

19.30-21.30: Optional dinner (Dining Hall, St Antony's College) – must be booked in advance

**Friday, 27 April 2018.**

8.00-8.30: Coffee (Buttery, Hilda Besse Building)

8.30-10.30: Parallel panels 8, 9, 10

Nissan Lecture Theatre:

**Panel 8: Post-war waterways: technology and trade in transformation**

Panel convenor(s): Peter Lambertz and Shingo Takamura

Chair: Peter Lambertz

Discussant: Lys Alcayna-Stevens

Sylvie Ayimpam, 'Marchés urbains, intermédiaires et circuits de commercialisation à Kinshasa / Urban markets, brokers and trading networks in Kinshasa'

Shingo Takamura, 'Dynamics of Mobility and Periodic Market Systems in Eastern Congo'

Naoki Matsuura, 'Local associations, economic development and river trade in Tshuapa province'

Peter Lambertz, 'Creativity, recycling and the origins of Congo's baleinières'

Pavilion Room:

**Panel 9: Material and Living Memory: Congolese Histories through Museum Collections**

Panel convenor(s): Hannelore Vandenberg and Amelia King

Chair: Vicky Van Bockhaven

Hannelore Vandenberg, 'Contemporary engagements with collections?'

Amelia King, 'Material Translations: Baptist Collections from Northern Congo'

Carlee Forbes, 'Funerary Textiles and Decorative Icons: Lower Congo Raffia Mats in the 20th Century'

James Green, 'The enduring potency of the Onlua, a precolonial Teke insignia of political leadership in present-day West Central Africa'

Maarten Couttenier, 'Hungry Humans, Hungry Objects. Collecting and Resistance in Boma'

Dahrendorf Room:

**Panel 10: New colonial histories**

Chair: Nathalie Tousignant

Alix Sacre, 'Des administrateurs territoriaux dans les revues de la Société d'Etudes juridiques du Katanga : parcours collectifs et trajectoires individuelles'

Eva Schalbrock, 'The Commission for the Protection of the Native Population's ideas on emancipation, representation and assimilation in the Belgian "civilising mission"'

Christian Mueller, 'The Dark Side of European Humanitarianism. Gustave Moynier, the International Red Cross, and the Congo, 1870-1900'

Margaux Vinez, Piet Clement, 'Land, labour and rural development in the Congo: the colonial legacy of the paysannat indigène scheme'

Andre Siamundele, 'La Remise en question et le renouveau de l'Etre Congolais'

10.30-11.00: Coffee Break (Buttery, Hilda Besse Building)

11.00-13.00: Parallel panels 11a, 12, 13

Nissan Lecture Theatre:

**Panel 11a: Rebel Governmentalities in eastern DRC: Discourses, Techniques and Subjectivities: 1**

Panel convenor(s): Judith Verweijen and Christoph Vogel

Chair: Judith Verweijen

Esther Marijnen, 'Fighting with national parks: how rebel group govern nature in the east of the DRC'

Peer Schouten, 'A prehistory of the roadblock: the longue durée of checkpoint economies in the Congo'

Judith Verweijen, 'Text and context of the armed group cahier des charges'

Christoph Vogel, 'Shifting rebel repertoires and networked fragmentation of armed groups in DRC'

Gauthier Marchais with Raul Sanchez de la Sierra and Matt Pecenco, 'The participation Conundrum: Evidence from a study of participation in violence in Eastern DRC'

Pavilion Room:

**Panel 12: Congolese political cultures in historical perspective**

Chair: Benoît Henriët

Reuben Loffman, 'Early Modern Sovereignty in Comparison: The Kongo Kingdom and the Holy Roman Empire, 1493-1714'

Volker Prott, 'Remaking the Congo: Politics of Belonging, Local Activism, and Intervention, 1960-65'

Daviel Lazure Vieira, 'Taking "Authenticité" at Face Value: Colonial Legacies in Mobutu's "Zaire"'

Christopher P Davey, 'Formed in the Vortex: Perpetration and Identity in the Genocide Rwandan Refugees (1996-1997)'

Dahrendorf Room:

**Panel 13: Congo in cross-border perspective**

Chair: Iva Pesa

Mikako Toda, 'The Kings of Commerce: The Trans-Border Businesses on the Congo River by Entrepreneurs with Disabilities'

Rui Verde, 'The Angolan connection. Angola's ambiguous relation with the Kabila (father and son) and Congo woes (2001-2017)'

Catherina Wilson, 'Moving on the Ubangi: A Cross-Border History of Mobility in Central Africa'

Colette Bishogo, 'So Close, Yet So Far: A Comparative Study of Local Governance in Goma, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Gisenyi, Rwanda'

Mostafa Abdelaal, 'The Central African Copperbelt in the decennial developmental plans in Belgian Congo and Northern Rhodesia, 1940s-50s'

13.00-14.00: Lunch break

14.00-16.00: Parallel panels 11b, 14, 15

Nissan Lecture Theatre:

**Panel 11b: Rebel Governmentalities in eastern DRC: Discourses, Techniques and Subjectivities: 2**

Panel convenor(s): Judith Verweijen and Christoph Vogel

Chair: Christoph Vogel

Carla Suarez, '“We consider them to be our saviors”: Civilians' Interpretations and Portrayals of the Mai Mai in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo'

Patrycja Stys with Johan Koskinen, 'Governance in Context: Brokering between civilian and rebel networks in the eastern DRC'

Ilari Aula, 'Unpacking the 'contribution': Responsibility of consumers for conflicts in eastern DR Congo'

Michel Thill, 'Policing Bukavu: Reflections on disciplinary technologies in urban DRC'

Pavilion Room:

**Panel 14: Medicine, Healing and Belief**

Chair: Ramon Sarro

Maarten Langhendries and Reinout Vander Hulst, 'Catholic Medicine and its Others: The Development of Missionary Medicine in Relation to Protestant Congregations and Indigenous Societies in colonial Congo (1900-1965)?'

Kyrah Malika Daniels, 'Vision from the Invisible Realm: Mirror Divination and Ritual Arts in Indigenous Congolese Religions'

Margot Luyckfasseel, 'Bringing Mpadi back to Mvuila: Activating the urban-rural axis in the competition between prophetic Kongo movements'

Nik Stoop and Marijke Verpoorten, 'Risk, envy and magic in DRC's artisanal mining sector: insights into the 'Modernity of Witchcraft''

Dahrendorf Room:

**Panel 15: Congo's natural resources**

Chair: Thomas Hendriks

Iva Pesa, 'Environmental knowledge production in the Union Minière du Haut-Katanga and Gécamines papers'

Daiji Kimura, 'Changes in distribution systems and subsistence activities among the Bongando in Tshuapa Province, DR Congo'

Aya Yokozuka, 'How local perceptions of bonobos become diversified: comparison between inside and outside of Luo Scientific Reserve, DR-Congo'

Ben Radley, 'Re-thinking the Minerals Consensus: Reflections on the Distributional Effects of the Productivity Transformation Induced by the Reindustrialisation of Gold Mining in South Kivu'

Stefaan Marysse, 'Real Governance in the DRC 2001-2016: Between reforms and white elephants'

16.00: Close