

Camps, Carceral Imaginaries, and Critical Interventions

The 2nd **Graz/Puerto Rico** International
Conference on Human Rights
from an Inter-American Perspective

May 30th – June 2nd, 2024
University of Graz, Austria

Organized by the Center for Inter-American Studies (CIAS) of the University of Graz
and the English Department of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus



We work for
tomorrow



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MAY 30

Location: Graz Museum (Sackstraße 18, 8010 Graz)

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Local Panel: Confined Spaces During and After the War: Historical Perspectives on Examples of Camp Structures in Austria 1939 to 1955

Chair: Roberta Maierhofer (University of Graz, Austria)

Dieter Bacher (University of Graz, Austria): **Camps that Did not Exist. Research on Encampment in the Soviet Zone of Occupation of Austria**

Katharina Bergmann-Pfleger (University of Graz, Austria): **Stories of Confinement. Dissemination Concepts for Histories of Camps in Post-War Lower Austria**

Martin Sauerbrey-Almasy (University of Graz, Austria): **Forced Labor and Camps in Graz During the Second World War**

Location: AULA Magna, University of Graz (Universitätsplatz 3, first floor)

3:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Official Registration

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Welcome Reception:

Moderators: Nicole Haring, Eva Katharina Bauer, and Christina Korak (University of Graz, Austria)

Music: Amaru Sunqu (Grupo Andino Latinoamericano, Perú, Ecuador, Argentina, Chile and Bolivia)

Welcome Remarks:

Mireille van Poppel (Vice-Rector of Internationalization, University of Graz, Austria)

Roberta Maierhofer (Academic Board of the Conference; University of Graz, Austria) and **Don E. Walicek** (Academic Board of the Conference; University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus)

Opening Remarks:

Introduction: Don E. Walicek (University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus)

Mansoor Adayfi (Yemen, Serbia): Author of *Don't Forget Us Here* (2021)

Moazzam Begg (United Kingdom): Author of *Enemy Combatant: A British Muslim's Journey to Guantánamo and Back* (2006)

Abdellatif Nasser (Morocco): Creator of Guantánamo's first handwritten bilingual (Arabic-English) dictionary

Poetry Reading:

José Ramón Sánchez Levya (Casa de Cultura Guantánamo City, Cuba): Poems from Guantánamo (Translations by Esther Whitfield, Brown University, USA)

Opening Lecture:

Behrouz Boochani (Author of *No Friend but the Mountains*, 2019; *Freedom, Only Freedom*, 2023): **Australia's Banishment of Refugees: Dehumanization and Resistance**

Conference Reception

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Location: University of Graz (Heinrichstraße 36)

9:00 am – 10:30 am

HS 11.01

Keynote Lecture: Open Letters from Former Guantánamo Prisoners

Chair: Don E. Walicek (University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus)

Mansoor Adayfi (Yemen, Serbia)

Moazzam Begg (United Kingdom)

Abdellatif Nasser (Morocco)

Barhoumi Sufyian (Algeria) (*online*)

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Coffee Break & Exhibition El Tor

11:00 am – 12:30 am

HS 11.01

Panel #1 Borders / Refugees / Abolitionism

Chair: Bilgin Ayata (University of Graz, Austria)

A. Naomi Paik (University of Illinois, USA): **Sanctuary for None: Conservation, Migration, and Border Abolition**

Seema Kazi (Center for Women's Development Studies New Delhi, India): **Assam: Contested Borders and Belonging**

Nicole Haring (University of Graz, Austria): **Abolition/Demolition: An Inter-American Feminist Perspective on Incarceration and Carceral Imaginaries**

HS 12.01

Panel #2 Art/Writing (in Guantánamo)

Chair: Carolyn Defrin (University of Graz, Austria)

Elizabeth Swanson (Babson College, USA): **The Guantánamo Artwork and Testimony of Moath Al-Alwi: Deaf Walls Speak**

Terri Tomsy (University of Alberta, Canada): **Guantánamo Comics: Representing and Resisting Regimes of (In)Visibility**

Michael Reyes Salas (Vassar College, USA): **Subversions of Penal Spectatorship: Critical Visual Literacy to See Past Carceral Illusions**

Mansoor Adayfi (Yemen, Serbia): **Art at Guantánamo**

HS 12.11

Panel #3 The Plausible: Guantánamo & Beyond / Lo Possible: Guantánamo & Más Allá

Chair: Roberta Maierhofer (University of Graz, Austria)

Don E. Walicek (University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus): **What Does Memory Mean? Epistemic Disobedience and Detention at Guantánamo Bay**

Diana Murtaugh Coleman (Northern Arizona University, USA): **"I Pity the Country, I Pity the State": The Encamped, the de-Camped, and the Uniformed Through Lines**

Claudia Martínez Hernández (University of Vienna, Austria): **Guantánamo in My Life**

José Ramón Sánchez Leyva (Poet from Guantánamo City, Cuba): **Dos Encierros**

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

HS 11.01

Keynote Lecture

Chair: Nicole Haring (University of Graz, Austria)

Erica Meiners (Northeastern Illinois University, USA): **A Queer Struggle: Abolition Feminism Against Empire**

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Coffee Break & Exhibition El Tor

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

HS 11.01

Panel #4 Places of Exile, Places of Activism: Rethinking the Refugee Camp and the Politics of Empire in Cuba, Central America, and the Philippines

Chair: Don E. Walicek (University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus)

Esther Whitfield (Brown University, USA): **Activism in Cuban Refugee Journals: Guantánamo, 1994-1996**

Omar Granados (University of Wisconsin La Crosse, USA): **Forgotten Voices of Mariel: Race and Marielito Publications during the Mariel Refugee Camp Program (1980-1982)**

Tanya Harmer (London School of Economics and Political Science, UK): **Refuge in Revolution: Colonias and Camps in Cuba for Uruguayan and Chilean Exiles** (*online*)

Jana Lipman (Tulane University, USA): **Palawan: Vietnamese Diasporic Activism and Imaginaries** (*online*)

HS 12.01

Panel #5 Hunger Strikes

Chair: Artiola Kajtazi (University of Graz, Austria)

Michelle C. Velasquez-Potts (University of Oklahoma, USA): **Force-Feeding and the Suspended Animation of Torture**

Krista M. Turner & Bruce Pearson (Western Michigan University, USA): **Prisoner Resistance: Visualizing Strategic Hunger Strikes in Contemporary Graphic Novels**

Angelica Camacho (San Francisco State University, USA): **Unbroken Spirit: SHU Prisoner Hunger Strikes and the Promise of Rebirth**

HS 12.11

Panel #6 Camps, Internment & Justice

Chair: Simon Maierhofer (University of Graz, Austria)

Pierluigi Bolioli (University of Pisa, Italy): **The Internment of Italian Enemy Aliens in British West Indies During WWII**

Panteleimon Tsiokos (Western University Ontario, Canada): **Japanese American WWII Internment: Contemporary (Re)Examinations of the U.S. Transitional Justice** (*online*)

Christian Cwik (University of Graz, Austria): **In and Outside the Camp: Fred Fischer's Photographs from the Internment Camp in Bonaire**

Pedro Reina Pérez (University of Puerto Rico): **Building for Freedom: Thoughts on Cultural Education and Higher Education for Imprisoned Adults in Puerto Rico** (*online*)

SR 11.13

Panel #7 Camps, WWII, & Literature

Chair: Mirna Cobanovic (University of Graz, Austria)

Lena Leßlhuber (University of Salzburg, Austria): **I Was at Peace When I Left:
Reading Holocaust Survivor R. Klüger's Life Writing Landscapes of Memory (2004)**

Nicolangelo Becce (Roma Tre University, Italy): **Bombshells United and Japanese
American Internment in Mainstream Comics**

Roberta Maierhofer (University of Graz, Austria): **Camps and Refuge for the
Displaced: Seeking Traces in Bad Gastein**

Location: Burg Graz (Weißer Saal, Hofgasse 15, 8010 Graz)

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Conference Reception by the Governor of Styria

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

Location: University of Graz (Heinrichstraße 36)

9:00 am – 10:30 am

HS 11.01

Panel #8 Spaces, Art & Human Rights

Chair: Carolyn Defrin (University of Graz, Austria)

Ángela Harris Sánchez (Granada University, Spain): **F(r)ictional Spaces of Historical Desires: Seeking Reparation beyond Aesthetical Narratives of History**

Jonathan Cortez (The University of Texas at Austin, USA): **How Camps Change; Or Identifying a Process of Spatial Scripts**

Olga Kajtár-Pinjung (University of Szeged, Hungary): **Enmification of Guantánamo Bay Detainees by the Bush Administration**

HS 11.02

Panel #9 Los Campamentos y Lo Carcelario en América Latina (ARGENTINA - años 70 - LA DICTADURA)

Chair: Norah Giraldi Dei Cas (Université de Lille, France)

Norah Giraldi Dei Cas (Université de Lille, France): **Modalidades y Sentidos del Suspenso en los *Cuadernos de la Cárcel* de Alicia Kozameh**

Isabelle Pouzet Michel (Universidad Littoral Côte d'Opale, France): **"Vientos de Rotación Perpendicular" y "Bosquejo de Alturas" de Alicia Kozameh Abordados Desde el Prisma de la Literatura de los Campos**

Sylvie Mongin-Algan & Gabriela Alarcón Fuentes (Theater Director; Actress/Director from France/Equador):

Taller- Realización '30'

HS 11.03

Panel #10 Intervenciones Críticas y Recomendaciones Sobre Personas que Han Sido Encarceladas en Puerto Rico

Chair: Tania García (University of Puerto Rico)

Yadiel López Sánchez (University of Puerto Rico): **Leyes Estatales, Federales y Políticas Sobre la Reinserción Laboral de Personas que Han Sido Encarceladas**

Aby García Ortiz (University of Puerto Rico): **Proyectos de Ley y Educativos para la Reinserción Laboral de Personas que Han Sido Encarceladas en Puerto Rico**

José D. Ayala Cruz (University of Puerto Rico): **Discrimen y Racismo por Parte de los Patronos Hacia Personas que Han Sido Encarceladas en Puerto Rico**

Tania García (University of Puerto Rico): **Recomendaciones e Intervenciones Críticas para la Reinserción Laboral de Personas que Han Sido Encarceladas en Puerto Rico**

SR 11.12

Panel #11 Violence / Memory / Reckoning

Chair: Chiara Pagano (University of Graz, Austria)

Catherine Lennartz (Boston University, USA): **Public Memory, Reconciliation, and Canada's Residential Schools**

Christina Korak & Rafael Schögler (University of Graz, Austria): **Civilized Christians or Victims of Ethnocide: Impacts on Identity and Territory of the Amazonian Waorani**

Malek Hardan Mohammad (American University of Kuwait): **Biopolitics, Conspiracism, and the Right-Wing "Camping" of the Quarantine/Reception Facilities**

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Coffee Break & Poster Presentations

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

HS 11.01

Panel #12 Guantánamo and the Arts of Resistance

Chair: Frithjof Nungesser (University of Graz, Austria)

Frithjof Nungesser (University of Graz, Austria): **Defying Guantánamo: How Inmates Resist Indefinite Detention and Torture**

Larissa-Diana Fuhrmann (Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Germany): **The Symbolic Significance of the Orange Jumpsuit: Power, Meaning, and Resistance**

Sebastian Köthe (Zurich University of the Arts, Switzerland): **Art from and after Guantánamo. Confronting, Criticizing and Evading Torture**

HS 11.02

Panel #13 AI Surveillance, Prediction, and Risk Analysis in European Border Camps and Migration Governance

Chair: Laura Jung (University of Graz, Austria)

Lydia Emmanouilidou (Independent Journalist Boston, USA): **AI and Automated Technologies at Europe's Refugee Camps and External Borders**

Alexandra Karaïskou (European University Institute, Italy): **Panopticon Revisited: Hyperion, Centaur, and the New Surveillance Practices in Greece's Refugee Camps**

Niovi Vavoula (University of Luxembourg): **Biometric Surveillance and Detention: The Dark Side of Interoperable IT Systems**

Jenna Altomonte & Todd Rowan (Mississippi State University; University of New Orleans, USA): **Atmospheric Encounters: Sousveillance, Networked Activism, and Carceral Interventions**

HS 11.03

Panel #14 Critical Approaches to the Carceral

Chair: Julia Prochinig (University of Graz, Austria)

Viktoria Lavriniuk (ENS de Lyon, France): **The Gendered Organizing of Carceral Liminality in a Total Institution: The Case of Belarus**

Julia Roth (Bielefeld University, Germany): **“I Used to Watch Shows Like Law and Order”: Camp Writing and Legal Imaginaries**

Anthony James Williams (University of California, USA) & Anthony Ammons Jr. (Juvenile Lifer, California, USA): **In/Convenience: Discretionary Power & Ethnoracism in California Solitary Confinement**

SR 11.12

Panel #15 Bosquejo de Alturas’ – Palabra, Traducción y Memoria (ARGENTINA - años 70 - LA DICTADURA)

Chair: Erna Pfeiffer (University of Graz, Austria)

Erna Pfeiffer (University of Graz, Austria): **Procesos de Traducción – Encierro, Movimiento y Comunicación Subterránea**

Alicia Kozameh (Chapman University, USA): **‘Bosquejo de Alturas’ – Reflejos y Experiencias**

Valerie Simbriger (University of Graz, Austria): **La Contribución de Alicia Kozameh para una Cultura de Memoria – el Ejemplo de ‘Bosquejo de Alturas’**

Sarah Kristian & Maëlys Meyer (Actress and Sound Artist from France; Documentary Filmmaker from France): **Testimonios y Germinación Múltiple**

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

HS 11.01

Keynote Lecture

Chair: Kurt Hahn (University of Graz, Austria)

María José Rubin (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina): **Centros Universitarios en Cárceles de Argentina: Escritura, Organización y Defensa de Derechos**

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Coffee Break & Poster Presentations

3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

HS 11.01 / SR 11.12 / SR 11.13

Creative Writing Workshop (sign-up required)

Jacqueline Jiang Chieu (University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus)

Mohamedou Ould Slahi-Houbeini (Author of *Guantánamo Diary*, 2015, 2017; *The Actual True Story of Ahmmed & Zarga*, 2021)

Don E. Walicek (University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus)

6:00 pm – 7:15 pm

HS 11.01

Keynote Lecture

Chair: Don E. Walicek (University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus)

Alexandra S. Moore (Binghamton University, USA): **Witnessing Public Secrets: Guantánamo in the Global War on Terror**

7:15 pm – 7:30 pm

Break

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

HS 11.01

Writers in Dialogue

Moderators: Don E. Walicek and Alexandra S. Moore

Behrouz Boochani (Author of *No Friend but the Mountains*, 2019; *Freedom, Only Freedom*, 2023)

Mohamedou Ould Slahi-Houbeini (Author of *Guantánamo Diary*, 2015, 2017; *The Actual True Story of Ahmmed & Zarga*, 2021)

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

Location: University of Graz (Heinrichstraße 36)

9:00 am – 10:30 am

HS 11.01

Panel #16 Confinamiento, Campamentos & Migración

Chair: Aris Dougas Chavarrias (University of Graz, Austria)

José Sánchez Guerra (Academy of History of Cuba): **Centro Especial de Rehabilitación del Oriente de Cuba (1960-1964)**

Jorge Graterole & Waldemiro Vélez Cardona (University of Puerto Rico): **Hacia la Educación Transdisciplinaria y Decolonial en el Sistema Carcelario: Pensar la Rehabilitación de la Personas Privadas de Libertad Desde la Radicalidad Socio Humanística**

Soukaina Boukhar (University Claude Bernard Lyon, France): **Exploring the Ethics and Implications of Biometric Identification in Refugee Camps**

HS 11.02

Panel #17 Book Presentation Panel: Abolitionism, Political Violence and Solidarity: Critical Feminist Interventions from the Americas

Chair: Julia Roth (Bielefeld University, Germany)

Sandra Heidl (Founder of Afrocubanas, Cuba/Germany)

Lígia Fabris (Yale University; Rio de Janeiro Law School of the Getulio Vargas Foundation, Brazil)

HS 11.03

Panel #18 Freedom, Captivity, & Literary Analysis (a Focus on Guantánamo Bay)

Chair: Eva Bauer (University of Graz, Austria)

Caroline M. Suárez Rodríguez (University of Puerto Rico): **Incarceration and Performance: An Analysis of Domination and Resistance in *The General: The Ordinary Man Who Challenged Guantánamo* by Ahmed Errachidi**

Jacqueline Jiang Chieu (University of Puerto Rico): **Confinement, Rights, and Historical Narratives: Chinese Indentured Laborers in Cristina García's *Monkey Hunting* and *The Cuba Commission Report***

Wilfredo R. Santiago Hernández (University of Puerto Rico): **Assembling the Dissimilar: A Glissantian Approach to Poetry about Guantánamo Bay**

Yoseph Villafañe Rivera (University of Puerto Rico): **For [What] God and Country: Humanity and Alterity and James Yee's Memoir**

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Coffee Break & Guantánamo Art Exhibition

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

HS 11.01

Panel #19 Human Rights: What To Do?

Chair: Diana Murtaugh Coleman (Northern Arizona University, USA)

Mansoor Adayfi (Yemen, Serbia)

Moazzam Begg (United Kingdom)

Mohamedou Ould Slahi-Houbeini (Mauritania, the Netherlands)

Abdellatif Nasser (Morocco)

HS 11.02

Panel #20 Carceral Literature

Chair: Julia Prochinig (University of Graz, Austria)

Luke Bresky (St. Mary's University, Canada): **Carceral Gaze and Emancipated Vision: Lydia Id's *Letters From New York***

Atalie Gerhard (Trier University; Saarland University, Germany): **Confining Extremism: The Role of North American Carceral Imaginaries in the Prison Memoirs of Susan Rosenberg and Ann Hansen**

Sandra Tausel (University of Innsbruck, Austria): **'All Stories in This Play Are True:' Reading France-Luce Benson's Detainment as a Living Document of Detention and Deportation**

HS 11.03

Panel #21 Encampments in the EU: The Implementation of Hotspot Approach in the Central and Eastern Mediterranean

Chair: Deniz Yüksek (Izmir University of Economics, Turkey)

Bilgin Ayata (University of Graz, Austria): **Migration Management as Extrastatecraft: The EU Hotspots as Infrastructure Spaces of Filtering**

Chiara Pagano (University of Graz, Austria): **The Spatiality of the Hotspot Approach in Italy: Between Facilities' Invisibilization and Migrant Persons' Mobilization**

Artemis Fyssa (University of Graz, Austria): **The Hotspot Approach in Greece: The Infrastructure Space of Filtering at the Eastern Mediterranean Borderscape**

Alaa Dia (University of Basel, Switzerland): **Shifting Border Strategies: The Carceral-Humanitarian Borders at the Aegean Island**

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

HS 11.01

Panel #22 Confinement, Protest, & the State

Chair: Bilgin Ayata (University of Graz, Austria)

Brendan Hornbostel (George Washington University, USA): **From Protest Camp to Labor Camp: The 1932 Bonus March as a Counterinsurgent Laboratory of New Deal Statecraft**

Teodora Tea Ristevska & Iztok Prezelj (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia): **Unlocking Justice: The Impact of Human Rights Lawyers at Guantánamo Bay Detention Camp**

Kamal Tasiu Abdullahi (Istanbul University, Turkey): **The Role of NGOs and Grassroots Movements in Challenging Detention Practices and Advocating for Prisoners' Rights**

Muir McCammon (Tulane University, USA): **Resisting Guantánamo Bay from Afar: Student Activists and the Shadow of the U.S. National Security State**

HS 11.02

Panel #23 Camps and / as Prisons in the EU

Chair: Monika Mokre (University of Vienna, Austria)

Monika Mokre (University of Vienna, Austria): **Prisons: Symbolic Politics with Human Victims**

Klaudia Wieser (University of Innsbruck, Austria): **Invisible Prison? Pre-Deportation in the Austrian Countryside**

Nidžara Ahmetašević (University of Graz, Austria): **Camps as Technologies of Exclusion by Care**

Manja Petrovska (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands): **Humanitarian Actors Legitimizing Incarceration**

HS 11.03

Panel #24 Deconstructing The Wall / El Muro: Settler Colonialism, Border Militarization & Indigenous Peoples' Responses to Military Industrial Complex

Chair: Margo Tamez (New York University, USA)

Margo Tamez (New York University, USA): **Narrative Ndé Poetics |||| in |||| Walled |||| Homelands |||| (online)**

Ramón Resendiz (University of Texas, USA): **Archival Resistance Beyond Borders, Walls & Settler Colonial Visuality**

Rosalva Resendiz (The University of British Columbia, Canada): **Critical Reflections from the Border of an Identity**

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Coffee Break & Guantánamo Art Exhibition

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

HS 11.01

Keynote Lecture

Chair: Roberta Maierhofer (University of Graz, Austria)

Elliott Young (Lewis & Clark College, USA): **Resistance to Detention: Cuban Mariel Refugees Prison Uprisings**

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Closing of Conference

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